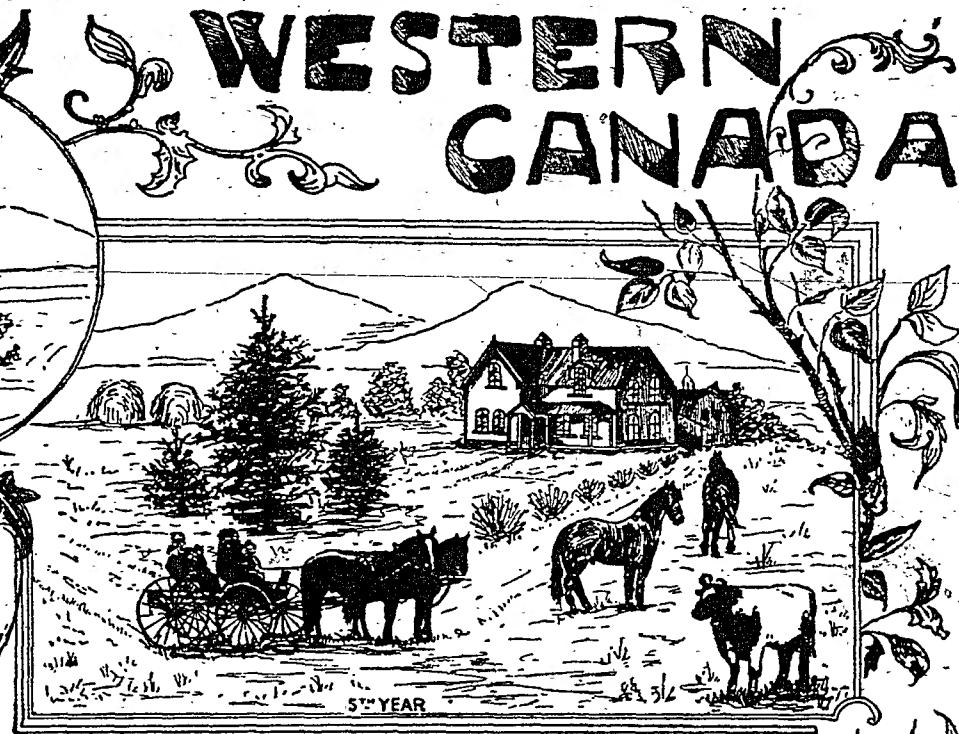


WESTERN CANADA.

Delegates Reports
and Settlers
Experiences

Published by Authority
Hon. Clifford Sifton
Minister of Interior.



OTTAWA
CANADA
1899.



PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

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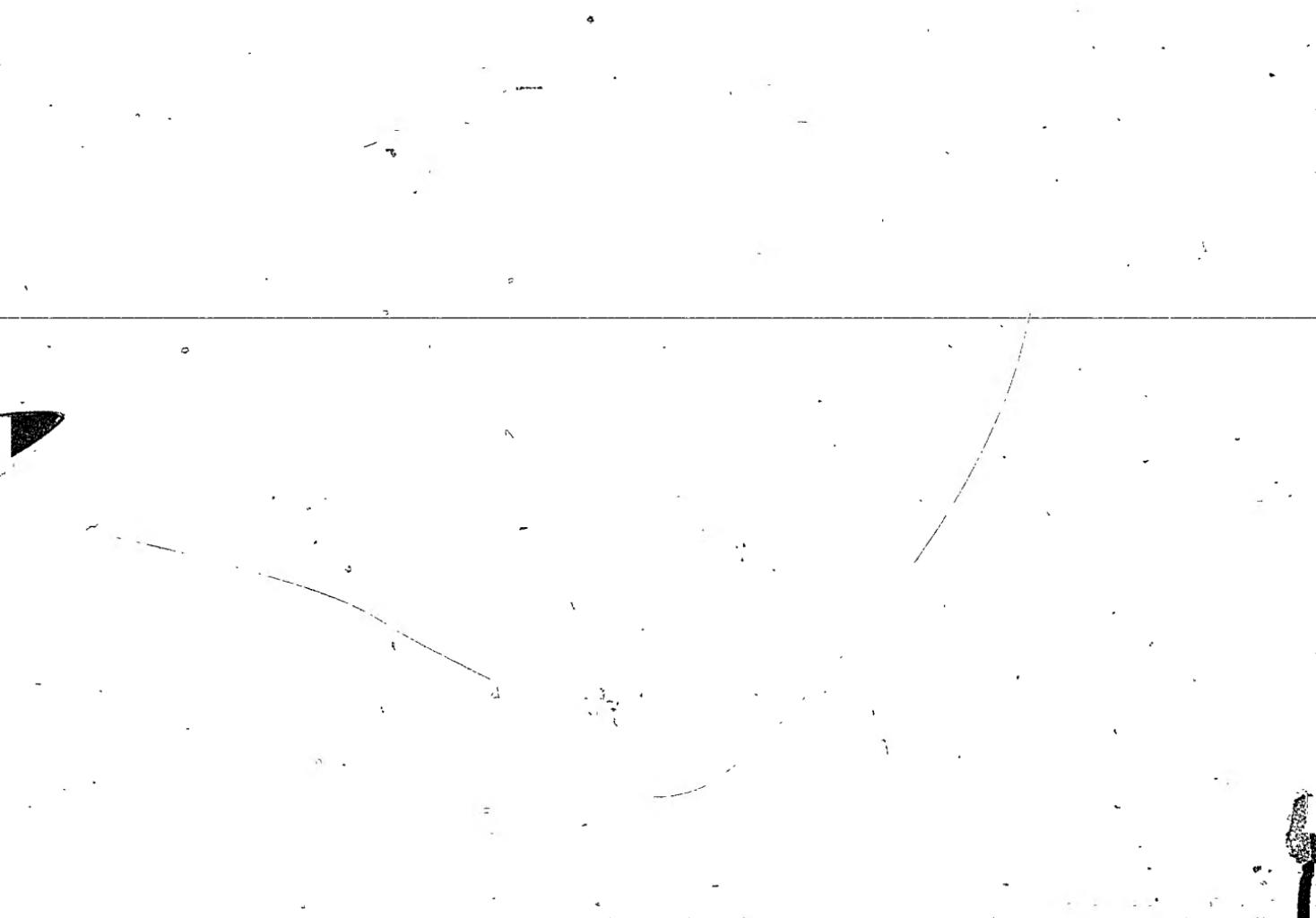
SETTLERS' EXPERIENCES

— IN —

WESTERN CANADA

1899

PROVINCIAL
EXHIBITION
MANITOBA.



DELEGATES' REPORTS

Winnipeg, Man., 10th June, 1898.

We, the undersigned delegates from Watertown, South Dakota, have just visited the district lying around Penoka on the Edmonton Railway.

We are much pleased with the appearance of this district, soil a rich, deep black loam. Hay and water in abundance, and there is plenty of timber for building and fuel.

There is no scarcity of open land for farming operations, and there is a tract of forty sections of land, formerly an Indian Reservation, which is being surveyed and will be open for purchase. This is only two miles distant from the station, and we have decided to buy and settle there as soon as it becomes available.

There is good homestead land to be had from 6 to 12 miles from the station.

The cattle in this neighborhood are in fine condition, and we did not see a single animal poor in the district, which is a new district, and not so thickly settled as around Edmonton and Wetaskiwin.

We found the farmers doing well and satisfied with their prospects, and were uniformly treated by all the Government officials, who are most obliging.

(Sgd.)

J. E. Spicer,
D. C. Richardson.

Mr. Jas. B. Truscott, of Midland, Faulk Co., South Dakota, after making a trip through the Canadian West, and before settling there himself, wrote: "I saw Fife wheat 4 ft. 8 inches high, yielding 40 bushels per acre; oats, 4 ft. high, yielding 75 bushels per acre. I met a Mr. Miller, who came here 17 years ago; he is now well off. He says he never missed a crop. He sold cattle last year to the amount of \$213, and this year, so far, to the amount of \$145. And now, Dakota farmers, friends and neighbors, you who have had the cour-

age, hope and life nearly ground out of you through the long succession of failure of crops; you who must make a move very soon or go to the wall, perhaps never to recover, why not come this way? This place is near you; the people are the most cordial, the most hospitable, I ever met. The climate is mild and healthful, the land is free, the harvest is sure and the profit is rich."

Winnipeg, 3rd Nov., 1898.

I, Adolf Haberkorn, delegate from Zoll, South Dakota, visited the Canadian Northwest in the interests of several farmers of that district, as well as to convince myself whether this country was suitable for mixed farming. I was very much satisfied with the country, its products were splendid, the grain was good in quality and the yield enormous. Wheat yielding from 30 to 40 bushels per acre; barley 60 bushels, oats from 75 to 100 bushels. The soil is the best I have ever seen, black loam, with clay subsoil, that will seemingly, from what I have seen, raise anything. I drove out 35 miles north of Edmonton, and one would have to go as far out as this in order to get free homestead lands, although railway lands can be had much nearer for \$3.00 per acre. I interviewed numbers of farmers and everybody had a good word to say for the country. I was so favorably impressed that I have determined to throw in my lot with the country and also persuade all I come in contact with to do the same, as I am sure they will do well.

(Signed) Adolph Haberkorn.

Edmonton, Alta., July 8, 1898.

To the Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg Man.

Sir: The Edmonton district country is just beautiful and the soil the richest we have ever seen, and we are all thoroughly convinced that it cannot be excelled for mixed farming. We drove through several large settlements and every-

where found the farmers prosperous and contented. They have natural market to the Kootenay country and the Northern Gold Fields; therefore, good prices are obtained for all farm produce. The cattle are easily grown and bring splendid prices; also all kinds of fowls. We found plenty of schools and churches, and from information received we are satisfied that the educational system is hard to beat, and the taxes very light. We also learned that the Government creameries, which are established at various points, have been on account of the perfect system of management, a great benefit financially to the farmer. The crops in Poplar Lake, Beaver Hills, Agricola and Clover Bar districts look first-class, with the exception of being a little light in places. We are all well pleased and satisfied with the Alberta district.

W. H. Shields, South Dakota.
Ezra Ferguson, South Dakota.
R. B. Vedder, South Dakota.
S. Wellington, South Dakota.
J. B. Perry, Minnesota.

Prince Albert, Sask., 29th Dec., 1898.

On arriving at Regina the morning of the 24th inst., I found Mr. Mair was just leaving for Prince Albert, and I accompanied him, arriving there at about 9 p. m. The next day being Sunday and Christmas day, nothing was done, but the day after I was driven to the "Ridge," as it is called, and thence to the Red Deer Hill district, passing through a very fine farming region, and evidently a rich one, judging by the numerous well-equipped homesteads which were scattered over the country. I examined particularly the Miller, Courtney and McKay farms, the former at the Ridge and the latter at the Hill. All three are large farms and indicate, both as regards grain and stock, a region highly favorable to farming. The country is somewhat hilly and is plentifully wooded with clumps or belts of poplar. All the homesteads I passed seemed to be thriving, and the stock especially took my attention, being away ahead of our stock in South Dakota.

The following day I drove to the South branch of the Sas-

atchewan, going by Sutherland ranch to Chakastapasin's Reserve, about to be opened for settlement. Judging by surface and the natural features of this extensive tract, it is eminently suited for settlement, and being greatly pleased with it, upon being joined on Wednesday by my two companions from South Dakota, Messrs. Ughman and Boece, who had been examining the region of which Rosthern is the centre, we all drove over again to have a more thorough look at this fine district. The scenery here is beautiful, the lands clear and water and wood convenient and I can very highly recommend it as offering some of the most desirable locations for mixed farming along the South Saskatchewan river. The whole country visited pleased me greatly and will unquestionably be speedily settled as soon as it becomes generally known. Of course, I saw the whole country at a disadvantage, the lands being covered with snow and the crops disposed of. But from all I have seen, and from what I have learnt from others, there is no more inviting region for the intending emigrant from South Dakota to Western Canada than the country I have been enabled to examine. I am now on my way to Calgary and Edmonton and shall report hereafter my impressions of these parts. Immediately upon my return to Dakota my intention is to dispose of my interests there and to remove to one or other of the districts above referred to, and shall not hesitate to advise my friends to do so likewise.

(Signed)

James Legg.

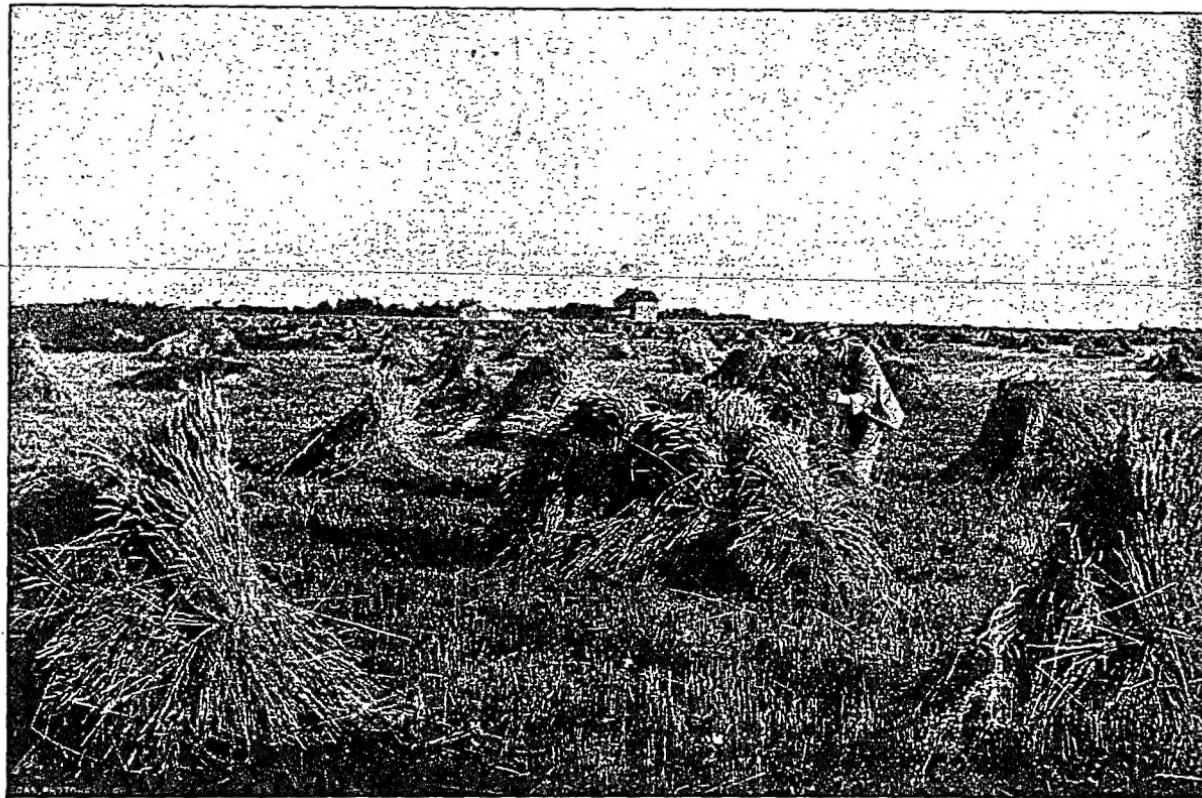
Winnipeg, 8th Oct., 1898.

William F. McCreary, Esq.,

Immigration Commissioner, Winnipeg, Man.

Dear Sir : I beg to submit the following report to you with the hope that it may succeed in dispelling a little of the unjust prejudice which is even to-day experienced amongst some of our American citizens, thinking, perhaps, that the publication of a little fact like this may help to allay some of this poor feeling.

I, E. Ferguson, from Brookings Co., South Dakota, visited the Edmonton district in the months of June and July, for the



HARVESTING IN WESTERN CANADA

purpose of finding a suitable location for myself, and acting otherwise as a delegate in the interests of a number of the surrounding farmers. I was so much impressed with the country that I decided to locate and am now on my way up with a car of effects. I found a great deal of opposition before leaving the United States, everybody combining in efforts to try and stop my emigrating ; in fact, the amount of information they possessed of an adverse nature was simply appalling. One party in particular seemed very bitter, and upon my informing him that I had already visited the district and was returning, satisfied with my own judgment, he collapsed. I further informed him that I would have neither the Canadian Government nor the Canadian Pacific Railway to blame should things not prosper with me, and related the following one of my experiences north of Edmonton. I found two French boys settled in the neighborhood of township 57, range 25 west of the 4th meridian. They came into the country about four years ago with nothing ; they told me that they had managed to peg along, to break up twenty acres after the first year, which they cropped and threshed out 800 bushels of No. 1 hard wheat. This helped them along ; they then broke another twenty acres, making in all forty acres, which they had cropped the fall previous to my visit, threshing 1,900 bushels of as good a wheat as a man could want to look at. They had good buildings and 8 head of cattle, besides calves and 8 horses, and a pile of lumber ready for use, 6 feet high, 18x24. Now, I said to my adversary, I reckon if those two young men whom I questioned and found out did not owe a dollar, could get along like that in four years, then I want to try the same country and do the same, and I don't see what is to hinder me.

I then asked him what he was doing, and he told me that he was doing odd jobs, he had been marshal, etc. I asked him why he could not be a man and go out and make a living like an honest man for his family, as I do. "Well," he said, "I've been thinking of it for some time. I guess you're right."

(Signed)

E. Ferguson.

ADMIRABLY ADAPTED FOR MIXED FARMING.

Read What an Iowa Farmer Says About Alberta.

Eldora, Ia., Dec. 8, 1897.

Dear Sir : Last summer I read your advertisement in the Eldora Enterprise regarding the free Government lands of Western Canada.

As I am a young man starting out for myself, and in search of land, I sent to you for literature and full information of that country. After reading what you sent me, I decided to go and see the country for myself. I started September 20th, and am so well pleased with my trip that I have concluded to write you and give you my impressions of Alberta.

On reaching Calgary I learned that the Agricultural Society at Edmonton would hold their annual fair the following Tuesday and Wednesday, and as I wished to see and meet as many of their people as I possibly could while there, and knowing that I could not get a better opportunity to do this than at a fair.

I have never seen finer crops in my life than those I saw here. The yield was something enormous. I saw wheat that yielded more than 50 bushels per acre, and oats that ran over 120 bushels per acre. The average for the entire district was about 45 bushels of wheat and over 85 bushels of oats per acre, and these would grade No. 1 in any market in the world.

I find the country very rich in natural resources. The soil—a rich, black, sandy mould on a good clay subsoil—is the richest I ever saw. The climate is perfectly delightful. Fuel, in the form of wood and coal, is abundant throughout the country. Among the forest trees I noticed spruce, tamarac, poplar, pine and birch. The spruce and pine are found in sufficient quantity to furnish the building material for many years to come, while poplar, valuable for fencing and fuel, may be found almost anywhere. The pine is found in the northern part of the territory, a little out of the farming district, but it is sawed into lumber in the district where it is found, and shipped into the settlements at a comparative

small cost and is placed on the market at a very reasonable price, as were the prices of about everything else.

Among the natural grasses of the country I found pea vine, slough grass, red top and blue joint, all of which were very nutritious.

The country is admirably adapted for mixed farming, and is as good for dairying and ranching as for grains.

I spent nearly six weeks in the country and found that the farmers are making lots of money, and are well satisfied with everything, laws, prices, people, etc., etc. In fact, I think it is the best country for a man, either rich or poor, to make money I ever saw. I have spent my life on a farm, consequently I am in a position to know whereof I speak.

I am satisfied that in none of your literature are the advantages of Western Canada overdrawn, and all you told me of the country hardly does it justice, for I found it all that you represented, and more, too. So well am I pleased with the country that in the spring, if I can arrange matters here, I will go back to that country, purchase a piece of land and put it in shape for my future home.

There are a number of other families in this neighborhood who were waiting for my report of the country, who will in all probability go with me in the spring.

I am, Sir, Very Truly,

J. Frank Pollard.

Mr. Pollard, along with several others, left in the spring of 1898.

Yorkton, Assiniboina, April 7, 1898.

Mr. N. Bartholomew, Des Moines, Iowa.

Dear Sir : I believe I should write to you and tell you how well we are pleased with the country out here. We have rented for the first year, as we wanted to get settled and the snow is too deep to look for a place to suit us. We got splendid terms on the place ; crop rent. It is the Seamons

ranch. The men are going out to-day with a load of goods — it is 25 miles from Yorkton. Furniture is terrible high here owing to the freight. I like the people here and they are all pleased with the country and are making money. This appears to be a splendid country for farming.

Now, I want you to do all you can to get reduced rates on a car from Anamosa to Yorkton. Mr. Joseph Boots is the man in Anamosa that is going to bring the rest of our goods in a car with his stock and goods. He wants to start from Anamosa about the first of May. His family, my mother and brother are coming together. There will be eight of them, and you must do what you can to help them out. I never saw people do so well as they do here.

Yours truly,
Mrs. R. S. Osborne,
Via Yorkton.

Theodore P. O., N.W.T.

Calgary, April 20th, 1898.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Commissioner of Immigration,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Sir : We, the undersigned delegates, visited Alberta and Western Canada in our own interest and many others whom we represent in our respective districts, take pleasure in submitting to you this report for the Department of the Interior of the Canadian Government.

On Tuesday morning we started east from South Edmonton, and soon passed two large ravines, heavily timbered, with a beautiful stream running in the valley. We soon entered a delightful country ; some scrub, but not sufficient to be any detriment, plenty of good timber, well watered, and we must say a very desirable district. This is the best country we have seen in our travels, the most fertile, the most productive. We examined the stubble of last year on the fields, and never saw its equal. From one grain has germinated as high as 42 stalks of wheat.

We called on Mr. Isaac Dose, from Iowa. We found his

buildings good ; good wheat and oats, splendid cattle, hogs and sheep, all in good condition ; his farm neatly fenced and everything thrifty. He had only been two years on his place. Mrs. Dose is well pleased with the country ; put up sufficient wild fruit that she had gathered herself to do, a large family for the entire year.

We called at the farm of Mr. J. Carscaden, Section 4, Tp. 53, Range 23. We found him a very prosperous farmer. He has been sixteen years settled here. He came without any capital, and, displaying his hands, said, "This was my capital." He has 400 acres of land, 50 cattle, 10 horses. His cattle were all fat, and were wintering on straw ; his horses good, and 3-year-old colts of his own raising weighed 1,250 lbs. ; good farm equipment, good comfortable buildings. He said : "I do not owe any man a dollar, and I have money in the bank." He has plenty of grain in his granary. He has had no failures in sixteen years, and has grown eleven consecutive crops on same land without rest. His lowest average was 23 bushels of wheat and his highest was 56 bushels. Last year his entire crop averaged 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of wheat, and the wheat weighed 64 lbs. to the bushel. His oats have run from 45 to 60 bushels, and he has threshed as high as 110 bushels of oats to the acre. We also saw fine samples of barley that yielded 45 bushels per acre. Potatoes were good and yielded from 400 to 500 bushels per acre. We examined some excellent Timothy hay, which had been cut over three years, and would average two tons to the acre, and a beautiful sample of Timothy seed in his granary. Twenty-six stacks of Timothy, 10 sheaves to the stack, threshed seven bushels and 39 lbs., 56 lbs. to the bushel. His cream is delivered at the creamery, and the butter netted him 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents per lb. He has an excellent lot of poultry. Here we also saw great stacks of straw from one to three years old in the fields, as bright and fresh as if threshed yesterday. His crop has never been frozen in sixteen years. Mrs. Carscaden says she likes the country well, and cannot say that she has ever endured any hardships. She gets 15 cents per dozen for eggs, and says she has good neighbors, good schools, church-

es and Sabbath school, and every comfort she could wish. She gathered enough wild fruit last summer to do the family one year—raspberries, currants, gooseberries, and Saskatoons and blueberries grow in great abundance, and are quite as nice as the domestic varieties.

We were shown other farms ; all excellent places, good crops and buildings, good equipments and all getting rich. The farm of Arthur Gray was pointed out, who last year sold five barrels of ripe tomatoes. Giving a good deal of his attention to gardening, he produces pumpkins, cauliflower, vegetable marrow, and all vegetables do exceedingly well with him. This is in the Clover Bar district, about 15 miles east of Edmonton. A young man was stopped on the road driving a team, and put the following questions : "How long have you been here?"—"Six years."—Tell me how you like the country, and how much wheat you grow. "I like the country well. Our crop last year yielded 40 bushels per acre, and all our crop was exceedingly good. Potatoes and roots. Oats threshed 70 bushels to the acre. I would not take a farm down east as a gift and leave here. My name is Jacob Kelly. I live near Beaver Hills."

On Wednesday morning we proceeded to North Edmonton. Starting with twenty-two in our number, we drove north, and soon entered a splendid country. We halted at the farm of D. E. Gates, who personally knew four of our party, being neighbors in Isabella County, Michigan. He was pleased to see his old friends, and more than satisfied with the country. He has been two years in Alberta ; sold his wheat last year for 60 cents, and his oats for 28 cents. He rented a place, and threshed 1,200 bushels of wheat. He said : "I have seen more money in one year here than I earned in twenty in Michigan. I had no money last spring, but machine men and others gave me credit and treated me generously, and last fall I paid every cent. I would not take a thousand acres as a gift in Michigan and go back there to live, and give up the chances for myself and sons in this great country. Taxes are low ; only school taxes are paid. I pay only school taxes. I have more in my granary now that I retain after selling

last year's production, than I used to raise in Michigan. My wheat weighed 64 lbs. to the bushel last year. My sons are highly satisfied and my wife is pleased with the country. Last winter was very mild, and I fed my stock all winter without any gloves or mits on my hands."

On the 22nd April, taking the train at Edmonton, we proceeded to Wetaskiwin, some 40 miles south. We visited the creamery at that point and found it a thoroughly equipped industry, very modern, and run by the Dominion Government in the interests of the farmer patrons. This is the best creamery we ever saw, and gives all the profit to the farmer. Mr. Kincaid, the manager, was very kind, and went into all particulars; cold storage, good markets found for the butter in England, China and Japan by the Dominion Government. They also test the individual cows for patrons of the factory to show their intrinsic value as butter producers. A charge of 4 cents per lb. is the only cost for making butter. This creamery in the short season made 18,000 lbs. last year. One farmer, named Adam Wise, in a few months last summer, was paid \$325 for the production of 25 cows.

We visited the Dried Meat Lake district. The land between Wetaskiwin and this settlement is not so good, although some very good localities are found. It was well watered and timbered. At Mr. Hill's we were shown his grains, stock and potatoes. He has splendid buildings and good building timber. We examined timber 50 feet long, squared to about 12 inches at the but, and the tamarac variety. His potatoes were the finest we had ever seen, dry and smooth, and averaged 300 bushels to the acre. Bringing up a bushel, we think they would average a half pound each in weight, and were exceptionally large. His wheat threshed 33½ bushels to the acre. He is highly pleased with his prospects. The Dried Meat Lake, just below his place, in full view of his house, about a mile distant, is a body of water 17 miles long by one mile wide, varying slightly. His two boys in a few hours caught 274 lbs. of fish through a hole in the ice—pike and pickerel of a very good quality, and good size.

We passed on, and we must admit we saw the finest country we ever looked upon, and the best district we have seen in Canada. We must admit it is a delightful district; plenty of timber, clear of scrub and well watered, and the choicest of fertile land, with great openings that can be broken without any obstacles. We are more than pleased with this last visit, and are very thankful indeed for the great kindness shown us by all. We have decided to settle down ourselves and direct the attention of all to this great country, so much of which we have been permitted to visit under such favorable circumstances.

We saw at Wetaskiwin nine carloads of splendid cattle shipped the morning we left.

We have the honor to be,

Yours most respectfully,

T. A. Welk, Buhler, Kansas.
A. D. Welk, Buhler, Kansas.
Jacob Bartel, Buhler, Kansas.
Peter Berg, Durham, Kansas.
H. S. Hall, Omaha, Nebraska.
George J. Whiting, Watling, Nebraska.
J. S. Kirkpatrick, Fair County, Michigan.
C. W. Parker, South Omaha, Nebraska.
George M. Lackie, Omaha, Nebraska.
Peter Morgan, Mellett, South Dakota.
N. M. Morgan, Bright, South Dakota.
Arthur Jarvis, Bloomer, Chippewa Co., Wis.
Mathias Steffes, Redfield, S. Dakota.
D. Clark, Cadott, Chippewa Co., Wis.
J. J. Wilcox, Iona, Michigan.
T. H. Graham, Isabella Co., Michigan.
Charles Ross, Cook Co., Nebraska.
J. D. Langlois, Hutchinson, Kansas.
D. L. Campbell, Omaha, Nebraska.
Alfred Lafevre, Kawkalin, Michigan.
John Provost, Auburn, Michigan.

Wetaskiwin, Alta., April 5th, 1898.
 W. F. McCreary, Government Immigration Commissioner,
 Winnipeg.

Dear Sir : Inclosed please find my return pass to Winnipeg. Will you kindly see it returned to proper office with my thanks. As I am not able to make my report to the people I represent on account of so much snow, they have asked me to remain here during the season, and I have concluded to do so, and shall examine the country closely. I like it very much so far ; have seen a great number of farmers from the States, and every one seen so far says they have done well and like it here far better than where they came from, and all claim it to be the best country for a poor man that they were ever in, and with good crops this season I predict a great rush. There are some nice claims to be had yet, but will not last the summer through.

I do not find it any colder than in Iowa, and am feeling much better than when I left there March 1st. I think this a great country for those who are suffering with throat and lung troubles. I have seen men that had as high as 51½ bushels wheat per acre and near 100 bushels oats, but they weigh from 45 to 51 pounds per bushel, but the general run is 25 to 30 wheat ; 50 to 75 oats, and stock looking fine ; some cattle running out were nearly in market flesh.

I expect to return to the States late this fall for stock, etc. Will write you when I want to go. Thanking you all for past favors.

Most respectfully yours,
 (Signed). Dr. D. E. Strevell.

Alameda, Assa., 14th October, 1898.
 W. F. McCreary, Esq., Commissioner of Immigration,
 Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Sir : Our delegation of W. H. Lacey, of Mitchellville, Polk County, Iowa ; Thomas Keyes, of the same place, and Frank Goetz, of Clark, Clark County, South Dakota, left Winnipeg in charge of Mr. Mair, on the 7th instant, by the Southwestern and Souris Branch of the C. P. R., for a trip through

Southern Manitoba and on to Moose Mountain, in Eastern Assiniboia.

En route to Elm Creek we passed numerous farms and hay meadows, and a good supply of small timber. On the way to Rathwell we passed over flat low-lying prairie, with, in many parts, belts or clumps of small poplar, hay meadows and occasional swamps—a region, it seemed to us, quite suited to stock-raising and mixed farming, though we saw very few cattle. We passed the innumerable stocks and stacks of Treherne, Holland and Glenboro, east of which the yield is this year about 20 bushels to the acre, a much better one than west of it, where, for some reason not easily explained, the wheat crop is a comparative failure, the threshing returns showing only from 8 to 10 bushels per acre. Drought scarcely accounts for it, a cold and dry spring this year having been common to all Southern Manitoba. Eight to ten bushels to the acre is the ordinary yield in our States, though here it seems to be looked upon as a failure. But even in the Treherne and Holland districts the yield has been cut down by the abnormal season, the Cyclone thresher turning out this year 1,500 bushels of wheat a day, whereas last year the ordinary 16-H.-P. hand-fed machine returned 1,800 ; still the yield is immense, but owing to the inclement weather, a large proportion of grain is yet in the stack, and much of it will be seriously injured if the bad weather holds.

Coal is in general use, costing at Melita \$3.50 a ton, and at Alameda \$2.90, but many farmers draw their own coal from the mines, buying it there at \$1.25 per ton. There is a great extent of coal-bearing country—a fact of immense importance in the future to Southern Manitoba and Assiniboia.

The soil of the region on the route to Melita is pretty much of the same character throughout, though with some exceptions. Generally speaking, the soil from Hartney to Oxbow is much alike, consisting of a surface of humus and loam from 18 inches to 3 feet in depth, resting upon a very hard mixture of sand and clay imposed upon loose gravel and sand with marl or blue clay beneath. At Alameda the surface soil is heavier, but the sub-soils are the same. The whole country

is flat, or slightly rolling. Water is found at all depths, from 12 to 40 feet, mostly good, though here and there it is alkali, and near Alameda a flowing well was struck by boring, which gives out a great volume of mineralized water. But generally speaking, all around Alameda the settlers have found good water at easy depths.

In the Alameda district there is much unsettled and uncultivated land belonging to absentees, speculators, and non-resident pre-emptors, but a great deal of homestead land is still open for entry a few miles from Alameda, which is very inviting and convenient to this market town. There is fairly good hay found in the Alameda country, which would be more abundant but for prairie fires, and northwest of Pierson there are extensive flats where the Melita people go for hay, and which is a promising cattle country, though the land itself is somewhat light and stony. Hail in some parts is unknown, but in others does injury at times, and high winds are not common, and consequently grain or hay stacks are never tied down as with us.

We find in Southern Manitoba that the sole dependence is in wheat. A few cows are kept, and we heard of one man, a Mr. Dobbins, near Melita, who makes 100 lbs. of butter weekly. There is, therefore, some dairying here and there, but not much. The straw is all burned, and no manure is, of course, available for the land, which is generally summer-fallowed. In our opinion, no land on the continent would, in the long run, stand this continuous cropping with wheat, nor does the manifestly great success of wheat-growing here, or, in fact, on any soil, justify it.

Northward, near Dalesboro, the country is rolling and intersected by several wide and ancient dry watercourses. Here and there, too, the country is streaked with small boulders, and the soil itself, which is a vegetable mould of about 12 inches, resting upon a yellowish clay loam of great depth is unmixed with a fine gravelly limestone excellent for wheat. Towards the Anderson farm we began to see evidences of mixed farming and to notice that cattle rapidly increased in numbers as we passed onwards to Moose Mountain, where

stock-raising is now a large industry. The Andersons, at Dalesboro, have about sixty head of cattle and feed their straw to them in winter, during which period the cattle must be housed. Their yield of wheat is 20 bushels to the acre and of oats 45. Water is found here at about 12 feet. There has been no hail here for ten years, but the blizzard occurs here in winter as everywhere else in the plain country.

Shortly after leaving Dalesboro we came in sight of Moose Mountain stretching for 36 miles from east to west and 18 miles wide. To this mountain settlers come for timber from all quarters. For a few miles settlement was sparse, but nearing it we found that along its southern slope it was thickly settled. Here are some substantial farmers, who, to a man, are stock-raisers as well as grain-growers, most of whom have been here for fifteen years, and are now well off. Mr. Hislop, at whose place we spent the night, has this year 65 acres in wheat, 30 in oats, and owns 50 cattle, his return being 20 bushels of wheat to the acre. He feeds his straw in winter, the cattle remaining in the mountain all summer, and only coming down as winter comes on. In the immense ranges of the mountain hay is found in vast meadows, and in unlimited quantities, and some settlers draw it home for winter feeding, but in general they build cabins for stockmen and winter their cattle in the numberless hollows, forests and groves in the mountain itself, where there is no end of ponds besides two large lakes abounding in fish. Some big ranges, we believe, have been leased from the Government at two cents an acre, but this is no obstacle to homesteading, which we presume might be done, except on forest land. There is a belt of about three miles in depth skirting the southern foot of the mountain where frost is unknown. South of it the vicissitudes correspond with other regions. In the northern parts are the big cattle ranges referred to and there is any amount of homestead land there, but this side the soil, though first-class, is to be subject to frost, which cultivation will no doubt here, as elsewhere, get rid of hereafter.

Towards the north on the western spur there are now some extensive sheep ranches, the total flocks numbering at

present over 20,000, and in the mountain itself red and jumping deer are still numerous. Along the plains we saw hundreds of grey geese and cranes, many of them feeding on the stubble, almost careless of our passing, and prairie chickens too we are told are plentiful. Hail is not troublesome; the occasional tempests are not destructive, and grain is never wilted by scorching hot winds, as with us. Breaking is done with three horses and the plow scours perfectly. Cattle weighing over 1,250 bring three cents, with deduction of 5 per cent. for loss and feeding and watering, which is absurd.

The Pipestone railway extension will equalize markets next year, and save a long transport to Alameda. Summer-fallowing and sowing on stubble are both practised, the latter being followed after one year of fallowing. The settlers generally come in poor and are now well off, and, considering that many of them have been denied railway facilities for fifteen years they certainly deserve their success. There is little, if any good homestead land in the vicinity of the mountain on the south side now available. On the east side, from Cannington eastward to the Pipestone extension grade there is a very large extent of country open for entry. It is more rolling than any we have yet seen, the soil being excellent and there are numberless dried-up ponds in all directions bearing excellent hay. The objection is boulders, with which the region is more or less strewn, but these are confined entirely to the surface, and some people think them an advantage and useful to the farmer in many ways in this country, where quarries are unknown. Numerous houses and out-buildings are constructed of them, and as limestone boulders are common they are burned when required and save the importation of lime.

We crossed the country to the French settlement, some 30 families from Belgium and France living in sod houses, but generally making headway — and the following morning passed through the English settlement on the North Antler, the creek here being really a fine stream. Some 50 families are settled in these parts with comfortable surroundings and all prospering. Thence we returned to Alameda, having

travelled some 250 miles by wagon train across country and seen an immense extent of first-class land which the new railway will open for settlement, and which we can justly recommend to our friends.

On our return to Alameda we drove across country to La Roche Percee, partly to examine the lands on the route, but immediately to look into the coal measures there, which, as settlers are now hauling wood from Moose Mountain to the settlements visited (in some cases 35 miles) is of incalculable importance to the rich agricultural regions we have described, but as this and our impressions of the country divided by the "Soo" line of railway form a separate report, we need add nothing further here other than a list of prices of agricultural implements and other important items for the guidance of our friends.

Prices of Implements at Alameda.

	American Make.
McCormick binder	\$ 155 00
McCormick mower	55 00
Rake (Thomas) 8-foot	28 00
Plow, Moline breaker	22 50
Stubble plow, 14-inch	23 00
Sulky plow, 16-inch	58 00
Sulky Malone Dutchman	58 00
Sulky Gang, Malone or Canton	78 00
Iron harrows, 3 sec. clip or nut	13 50
Seed drill, 14-hoe	75 00
Fish wagon	80 00
Mitchell Wagon	80 00
Chatham (Ont.)	75 00
	Canadian Make.
Massey-Harris steel binder	\$ 138 00
Massey-Harris mower	50 00
Massey-Harris horse rake	28 00
Sulky plow, 16-inch	50 00
Combination plow, 2-mold boards & 2 points	25 00
Cross or stubble plow from	\$15 to 20 00
Seed drill, 14-hoe	75 00

Seed drill, 12-hoe	65 00
Wagon, complete	70 00
Top buggies from	\$75 00 to 95 00
Binding twine	10c. per lb.

LUMBER.

Rough lumber, per M	\$ 18 05
2x4, 2x12, Dem., No. 1	22 00
2x4, 2x12, Dem., No. 2	21 00
Fir flooring	25 65
Fir and pine siding	25 65
6-inch shiplap	20 90
No. 1 B. C. cedar shingles, per M	3 10
No. 2 B. C. cedar shingles, per M	2 80
Tar paper-(best)	1 00
White paper	75
Lath, per M	3 60
Cedar posts, 13 feet	25c.

In conclusion, we can say that there is such a chance offered to the right American farmer in Western Canada as is nowhere else to be found on the continent. If he does not take advantage of it he is blind to his own interests. Here the tenant farmer of the Western States, who is now hopelessly ground down between the landlord and the tax-gatherer, can become the owner of a first-class homestead for \$10, or he can buy, out and out, the pick of railway land for less money than he pays yearly per acre in rental in our States. In Polk County, Iowa, for example, taxes on a quarter section average \$117; the rentals run up to \$5 an acre, and where land is rented on shares the owner gets a clear half of the return, the lessee furnishing seed, machinery and labor. If he has a failure and cannot pay, no mercy is shown him; he has to move off. This is the widespread condition which has been reached at last in our States in which half, and in many places two-thirds, of our farmers are tenants at the mercy of cast-iron leases and remorseless landlords. To our friends, and we represent several hundreds, we shall simply say upon our return: "In Western Canada is a land as rich in natural

resources as these States; a well-governed country, in which you can find not only the fairest prospects of success, but in all probability the last chance of the American tenant farmer for land ownership and independence."

(Signed).

Frank Goetz, Clark, Clark County, So. Dakota.

Thomas Keyes, Mitchellyville, Polk Co., Iowa.

W. H. Lacey, Mitchellyville, Polk Co., Iowa.

Wetaskiwin, April 13, 1898.

W. V. Bennett, Esq., Omaha, Neb.

Dear Sir: When myself and Mr. Swoboda left Omaha I promised to write to you how I find everything up here. I expected to find a wild country, but, on the contrary, it is settled by good industrious people. I must say that you did not misrepresent the country, but that it is even better than what you told me. I am sure a man could not get as good a homestead as I took up anywhere in the States any more now. Oats, wheat and potatoes beat anything I have ever seen.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Albert Miller,
Wetaskiwin, Alberta, N. W. T.

September 5th, 1898.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Commissioner of Immigration,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Dear Sir: We wish to make the following report for the benefit of intending settlers. We have visited the country north and west of Yorkton for over 60 miles, and found a country that cannot be surpassed for mixed farming. There are many streams of fresh water and the soil is excellent in every particular. The cattle around Yorkton could not be in better condition. We saw 2-year-old steers as good as some 3 years old raised in some places, and these and all others about Yorkton were fed on native hay in winter and herded in summer. In fact, after looking carefully over the land around that district, and noting conditions of crops in that

district and consulting with people, we find as a whole a most desirable place for settlement. The advantages here offered consist of plenty of wood in the Beaver Hills and surrounding country. Brick and lime are both manufactured and sold cheap in Yorkton. We asked many about the winters, and they all say they don't mind them any more than we do in Iowa or Ontario. Any one, no matter what their tastes, may be suited here. All that is wanted here is more settlers.

In conclusion, I must say that I am well pleased with what I have seen of the Yorkton country, and am satisfied that any man who starts into mixed farming and is careful is bound to succeed, no matter if he does start on a small scale with a little money. If I live, I will make my future home in this district, and I have no hesitation in recommending my friends to come and settle in the Yorkton country.

(Signed). Geo. Thompson, Boyden, Iowa.

Winnipeg, Man., 4th October, 1898.
William F. McCreary, Esq., Commissioner of Immigration,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Sir : We, the undersigned farmers, have been residents of Buena Vista County, Iowa, for from three to twenty-one years, and being about to return home cannot leave without expressing our satisfaction at having come to this country to examine into its suitability for farming and the advantages it offers, in other respects, to the agricultural immigrants from the United States.

We may say that we came here solely to look up improved farms, and, if suitable, to select such as pleased us best. We have, therefore, not visited the homestead districts at all, though we believe them to be very inviting. Our enquiries have been confined solely to the district around Hartney, Deloraine and towards the Souris River, in Manitoba. Our impressions of all that region are in every way satisfactory, and we have decided to go back to Iowa at once, and, having disposed of our several interests there, to return to Manitoba in the month of March next, and, effecting our purchase of improved farms, which we find we can do at reasonable rates,

immediately begin farming. We are greatly pleased with all that we have seen in that part of Western Canada. The soil we find to be more than equal to that of our own country for wheat-growing, and the other conditions of climate, schools, markets, etc., are all that we could wish for.

To show what an energetic man can do, we may mention that we found one such at Hartney who had rented a farm on shares, receiving two-thirds of the returns as his share of the crop. When he came to sell his own produce he found that his two-thirds, when converted into cash, was enough to buy the farm he rented out and out, which he accordingly did, and is now its owner. It is our intention to induce as many of our friends as possible, who are practical farmers, to remove from Iowa to this country, where we believe there is a better future for the industrious man than is now to be found anywhere on this continent. We are all well-known in our part of the State of Iowa, and we invite correspondence from its residents in all parts with regard to the region of Western Canada which we have visited, and to which we intend to return.

(Signed).

W. R. Milburn,
John Holmes,
M. R. Dagger,
E. L. Stetson,

Alta P. O., Buena Vista County, Iowa.

REPORT OF A. J. TUTTLE, CLEAR LAKE, IOWA.

Benjamin Davies, Esq., St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir : I visited Alberta during the months of September and October of 1898, during the threshing season, and such grain and yields are simply marvellous. In Iowa we consider 15 to 20 bushels of wheat and 35 to 40 of oats and 25 of barley a good yield per acre. Now in Alberta they think nothing of doubling this with a much better quality. As to climate, all the States' people I saw say they had rather live there in the winter than in some of the more southern States on account of the winters being more even temperature

and a much dryer atmosphere, a person not feeling the cold so much when the thermometer registers low as in a damper climate. As for the soil the yields of all kinds of small grains and vegetables speak for that, and for the prospects, if I didn't think them pretty good would not leave the State of Iowa for Alberta, for we think the State of Iowa as good an agricultural state as there is in the Union.

Yours truly,

(Signed)

A. J. Tuttle,
Clear Lake, Iowa.

Winnipeg, Man., August 31st, 1898.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Commissioner of Immigration,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Sir: Having visited Alberta and Western Canada in my own interests, I take pleasure in submitting to you this report.

I first visited the Yorkton District, and spent ten (10) days looking over the country. The principal feature of the district is, I think, the cattle. The finest cattle I ever saw are in this district, and at the time I was there they were shipping beef that had grown fat by feeding on the prairie. The country is suitable for mixed farming.

I estimated wheat would yield over 25 bushels to the acre, and the oats would go 80 bushels or over to the acre.

I visited the farms of others, and found their crops excellent. One crop was put in on this year's breaking, and will yield thirty bushels to the acre.

There are yet plenty of homesteads within ten and fifteen miles of Yorkton, and other lands can be bought for \$5 an acre. I consider this district a good one, and would recommend any one looking for homesteads to examine it.

I visited Sandy Cameron's farm, fifteen miles from Edmonton. He has been there since 1881, and thinks he is in the best portion of Western Canada. All the crops in this portion are good, and wheat will go 40 bushels to the acre, and I saw oats that will go 100 bushels. They told me that when they got 20 bushels they considered the crop a failure.

There is no doubt but what this is a fine portion of the country, and capable of yielding heavy crops.

I was talking to a farmer near Sturgeon River, who went in there three years ago. He hadn't quite \$25 in cash and two cows when he got there, and he has now forty-five head of cattle, has no debts, and little or no taxes to pay, and is well satisfied with the country.

In the St. Albert country I was informed there was a man cutting 100 acres of oats. He expected 100 bushels to the acre. He had to put five horses on his binder and could only cut half a swath.

One of the principal things that struck me was the evenness of the soil. I drove for miles and miles and never saw a stone, nothing but rich black loam soil, and from 18 inches to 2 feet deep.

In conclusion, I would say that I found that the reports sent out regarding your country were not exaggerated, and can recommend it as a country suitable for all kinds of farming and ranching. There are none but school taxes to pay, and that only where there are school districts.

I intend to return to my home in Iowa, and make arrangements to move to some portion of this country.

(Signed). David Brown.

Note—Mr. Brown has since purchased a farm near Dauphin.

Detroit, Mich., 4th October, 1898.

M. V. McInnes, Esq., No. 1 Merrill Block, Detroit, Mich.

Sir: We promised to let you know what we thought of your country, and now we wish to add our testimony to that of others to the favorable conditions as regards the terms of settlement, soil and climate which awaits the immigrant into Western Canada. We are residents of Toledo, Ohio, and reached Winnipeg on the 23rd September last. Thence we took train southwestward to Alameda, spending three days in examining that beautiful country. From thence we went to Brandon, and thence to Regina, where we spent two days before leaving for Prince Albert. The Alameda district we found to consist of rich rolling prairies—a country which is

rapidly settling up to a very fine country indeed. Brandon is a thriving well-built substantial town in the midst of great wheat fields, with numerous elevators and at every station as well as east and west of it, showing what a train of grain business flows through these growing points of shipment.

At Regina the soil is still stronger than here, being a very heavy clay, and the crops here we found to be very remarkable, though owing to persistent wet weather, still in the stook. At Prince Albert, which we next visited, we found that cattle-raising is making great headway at present. Here mixed farming is the rule, and the settlers all seem to be doing well. We were much struck with this country, though upon the whole we prefer the district we first visited, viz., Alameda, owing to its greater convenience for marketing grain, and it is in this part of the country that we shall in all likelihood settle when we return to Western Canada. But as regards the whole country, all that we have seen of it was alike inviting and of excellent quality in soil and productions. Though we have our own preference, there is no part that we saw which we could not honestly recommend to others who are in quest of new homes in this great country. We consider Western Canada the best country in the world for the poor man.

(Signed.)

A. A. Kusz, Toledo, Ohio.
Wolter Tabiszah, Toledo, Ohio.

Winnipeg, Man., 4th October, 1898.

William F. McCreary, Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Sir: We have called at your office in order to thank you for the courteous treatment we have received at your hands, and also to add our testimony to that of others to the favorable conditions as regards the terms of settlement, soil and climate which awaits the immigrant into Western Canada. We are residents of Toledo, Ohio, and reached Winnipeg on the 23rd September last. Thence we took train southward to Alameda, spending three days in examining that

beautiful country. From thence we went to Brandon and thence to Regina, where we spent two days before leaving for Prince Albert. The Alameda district we found to consist of rich rolling prairie—a country which is rapidly settling up—a very fine country, indeed. Brandon is a thriving, well-built substantial town in the midst of great wheat fields, with numerous elevators, and at every station as well as east and west of it, showing what a train of grain business flows through these growing points of shipment.

At Regina the soil is still stronger than here, being a very heavy clay, and the crops here we found to be very remarkable, though, owing to persistent wet weather, still in the stook. At Prince Albert, which we next visited, we found that cattle-raising is making great headway at present. Here mixed farming is the rule, and settlers all seem to be doing well. We were much struck with this country, though upon the whole we prefer the district we first visited, viz., Alameda, owing to its greater convenience for marketing grain, and it is in this part of the country that we shall in all likelihood settle when we return to Western Canada. But as regards the whole country—all that we have seen of it was alike inviting and of excellent quality in soil and productions. Though we have our own preference there is no part we saw which we could not honestly recommend to others who are in quest of new homes in this great country. We consider Western Canada the best country in the world for the poor man.

(Signed.)

A. A. Kusz, Toledo, Ohio.
Wolter Tabiszak, Toledo, Ohio.

Winnipeg, 3rd September, 1898.

We, the undersigned delegates from North Fairfield, Huron Co., Ohio, visited the Moose Mountain district, north of Alameda, in the Province of Assiniboia, N.W.T., Canada, and beg to submit the following report:—

We were driven by Mr. McEwan, of Alameda, and took in a district of about forty miles each way. We drove north

keeping a little east of Carlyle P. O., and were shown some wheat belonging to Mr. McEwan, one patch of which, 160 acres, would yield at least 30 bushels to the acre. The country is rather rolling, soil black loam, not too heavy; the grain in this district was nearly all stacked, being furthest ahead of any we have seen in the Province. Still further north in the Moose Mountains there is a fine stock district.

We stayed at the house of Mr. I. Thomson, who has been sixteen years in this district. He came into the country a poor man, and to-day is well off. Vegetables seem to thrive especially well in this Province. There seems to be no insect of any kind to destroy or interfere with them.

On our return to Alameda we went to Estevan and took the Soo line north to Moose Jaw and saw some very fine country along the C. P. R. to Regina—a country that cannot be beaten for wheat raising and farming generally.

We had intended continuing our trip to Edmonton, and possibly to Prince Albert, but all were quite satisfied with the Moose Mountain district, where we have decided to locate.

(Signed.)

M. C. Webster.
C. D. Walter.

Toledo, Ohio, October 22, 1898.

Mr. M. V. McInnes, Detroit, Mich.

Dear Sir: You will no doubt be expecting us to let you know what we think of the Canadian West. Well, we can only say that we found the country much better than we expected and all that you said was true, and more; as we said to Mr. Whitney, when asked how we liked the country, "It is God's country."

We explored the Souris River district and visited the Alameda settlement in the eastern part of Assiniboia. This district, although only settled within the last two years, is filling up fast. A good many Germans, from Detroit and neighborhood came in last spring and are comfortably settled. They must have brought money, as some of them have built good stone houses. All along the Souris Valley the land is good. Enough wood for building purposes can be got in the neigh-

borhood, if not on the land you take up, and plenty of coal at the mines—a wagon load for \$1.25.

The Pipestone country is another district of unusual fertility of soil, and the farmers think they have the best land in all this vast country. There is plenty of prairie hay, upon which the cattle thrive and which needs no cultivation. This district is well watered by the Pipestone river and the creeks and streams that flow into it. We found here, as well as in the Regina district, many farmers who settled here as far back as 1884 and 1885, and have got well off; in fact, would be called rich farmers in Ohio or Michigan—own from 320 to 640 acres, with good buildings, large herds of cattle and horses, and a supply of all modern farming implements.

Regina, in the Province of Assiniboia, is the capital of the great district between the Rocky Mountains and Winnipeg. The Regina district is a vast plain of prairie land, and by going a few miles back there is plenty of free land not yet taken up. The wheat crop throughout all the country is of excellent quality and will average about 20 bushels to the acre.

What we saw at the various farms which we visited gave evidence of the truthfulness of the statements made by the people we had talked to and verified the correctness of the information given by yourself and your local agent, Mr. Whitney.

Near Calgary the cattle are not housed in winter, but feed upon the natural grasses. Edmonton, about 200 miles north of Calgary, is the next town of importance in this district. It is the centre of as fine a mixed farming district as can be found anywhere in the Canadian west. Cheese factories and creameries are to be met with at convenient distances all over the country; in fact, dairying appears to be one of the chief industries of the farmers. Churches of all sects and schools are established wherever required. We journeyed to Prince Albert and saw a good deal of the Saskatchewan country, having only the same story to repeat, and our conclusion is that any man who is willing to work should in ten years get well off beginning with a free gift of 160 acres of good farming land, convenient to markets, coal and wood—coal at little more than the cost of hauling from the mines. Our belief is

that thousands will take advantage of this great chance to secure independence once they get a knowledge about the country and are convinced of its splendid advantages. For ourselves (and as many of our friends in this neighborhood as can get ready) we will go in the early spring. We have no doubt that the fruits of our trip will prove of great advantage and be the means of a large movement to the Canadian West from this country.

We wish you great success, and will be glad to see you when you come to Toledo. Thanking you for your advice in inducing us to go and see for ourselves, we are,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed.)

Andrew A. Kusz.
Walter Fabiskak.

Calgary, Alta., 23rd September, 1898.
William F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Sir: We, the undersigned delegates from Missouri and Kansas, being members of the party which recently visited the Yorkton district and reported to you thereon, were desirous of visiting the country westward through Manitoba to Edmonton before returning to the States. By your courtesy we were enabled to do so, and, having been joined in Winnipeg by Mr. Lincoln Nissley, of Los Angeles, California, we proceeded to Brandon in charge of Mr. Mair.

The following day we visited the Experimental Farm, and found it all that it had been reported—an institution evidently prosperous, and of great benefit to the country at large. We visited parts of the farming district the same day, as yet devoted mainly to wheat culture, and then went on to Virden, and examined a portion of the adjacent country, with which we were much struck as being typical of the great grain-producing region of Southern Manitoba. We dropped here two of our number for the purpose of examining the country to the south, where, we were informed, a great many cancelled pre-emptions are about to be thrown open for homestead

entry, and, as we may make a closer inspection of this region ourselves hereafter we shall add nothing further here.

All along the line of railway to Edmonton we found a series of small, but neat, growing towns, evidently full of business, and with country back of them of a good character, where wheat and other grains have been grown for some years, and where cattle-raising is also rapidly increasing.

We saw a great deal of the Edmonton district, and particularly a country to the northwest known locally as the "Kansas Settlement," whose soil and other physical features are typical, we believe, of all Edmonton. For some miles from town the country is rather thickly wooded; but we passed, as well, numerous open prairies and many fine farms and buildings. Towards Carrot Creek, also, the land is more or less wooded; but, beyond that it opens into a vast plain country, intersected by the river Qu' Barre. The soil is everywhere a rich, black vegetable loam, from one to two, and in some places even six feet in depth, resting upon clay. There is not, we believe, in any of our States a finer soil than this. The settlers are mainly French and Irish families from Kansas, and all spoke highly of their land and of their generally good crops. The drought of this year, however, seems to have specially affected this particular district, and has told upon the yield. The general average, nevertheless, is fair, wheat running to 25 and oats to about 40 bushels per acre. Last year as many as 50 bushels of wheat and 108 of oats were, in some parts, returned by this marvellous soil. Mr. Granger, from Kansas, was the first settler in Township 55, Range 27, and has done well, and, judging by his generous dinner-table, lives in luxury. Mr. Cyr, another Kansas immigrant, came in with his family shortly afterwards, his belongings being three horses, a wagon, harness, and two plows. He has now 89 acres fenced and half broken, and would not sell out, he said, for \$1,500. Mr. Poirier, from Clay County, Kansas, had about \$1,000 in effects of all kinds when he came, and has now 90 acres under cultivation and rates his belongings at fully \$2,500. Such is the general condition, we believe, of the 25 or 30 French families, who farmed in Kansas for many years before coming here.

The Irish are in still better shape. We returned through their quarter, and spent some time at Mr. Ryan's farm, which is typical of the rest. He has some 700 acres, about one-third of which is uncultivated, and has had phenomenal returns in past seasons, and a fair one in this. He was plowing his summer-fallow with four-horse gang plows when we visited him, and the soil, fat, heavy and as black as ink, scoured perfectly. Mr. Ryan came here some years ago, and began farming, and threw it up, and returned to Kansas. But he soon came back, and his condition to-day is as we have shown. A batch of settlers came back with him, loading with their effects 19 cars in all, forming a special train, which left Washington Co., Kansas, and came clean through to Edmonton. This seems to us a very sensible and economical way of moving into this country, and we commend it to intending emigrants from our States. Mr. Ryan's well is a sample of the way in which good water is found in this district. At from about 18 to 34 feet water is found everywhere which is not really unwholesome, but much of the country, at a certain depth, being impregnated with coal, it "tastes." By deep-sinking Mr. Ryan has secured an unfailing supply of excellent quality. One of the settlers now milks 11 cows, and is netting \$2 a day for cheese alone. Eight pounds of milk here make one pound of cheese. Sheep, pigs-and-poultry-thrive, though, of course, they are not plentiful as yet, and horned cattle are mainly carried through on straw, requiring no shelter in winter save the stacks upon which they feed. Wild hay is not abundant, and this region is therefore more suitable for mixed farming than for the large stock raiser. Three-year-old steers, weighing about 1,200 lbs., bring about \$35, and other cattle in proportion, and horses winter out, and bring a fair price, as horses go now-a-days. Coal is near and abundant, and costs only a dollar a wagon load at the seams. In fact, the whole country is underlaid with it, so that the supply of fuel is practically inexhaustible. There is plenty of small timber, however, for rails and firewood when required. Wild berries of the usual kinds are plentiful, and vegetables and potatoes are of the best quality. Homestead lands are, of course, all taken up in the settled parts. The nearest are

some seven miles beyond Mr. Granger's, towards Sandy Lake. In Township 57, Range 27, for example, no homesteads have yet been taken, though the land is just as good as it is elsewhere, and timber is abundant. Of course, railway lands (held at \$3.00 an acre) are to be had all over this region, and, with very liberal terms of payment, are desirable, through location or otherwise. Their purchase may be better than homesteading, if one prefers to live within existing settlements and to be nearer to market than he would be otherwise. The chief drawback of this region is, of course, its distance from Edmonton and its market. When projected railways are pushed on, this objection will disappear, and, with it, all that we can say against the country as a farming region. To men with moderate means, say \$1,000, and who do not object to living for a few years in expectation of railways (which are certain to come) or amidst surroundings for the present of a primitive or uncongenial character, we can honestly and heartily recommend this region as one of the best we have ever seen. To others the nearer and settled parts of Manitoba will be more attractive on account of markets and those appliances of civilization which in our States have become customary. But it must be borne in mind that, where homesteads and railway lands are not to be had in Manitoba, the immigrant must purchase improved, or speculators' lands, at long figures, and we must also point out that the present occupants of Manitoba were themselves at one time, and not very long ago, either, remote from markets, and denied the institutions and appliances of civilization to a greater degree even than the present settlers north of Edmonton. It is not our intention to recommend one district over another. Our object is to describe accurately and fairly the superficial features and existing economies of such as we have seen. We have now examined a portion of the east and of the far western country north of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and we are convinced, not only from what we have beheld, but from all that we have heard, that there is no considerable area in Western Canada which cannot be turned to profitable account, or which is entirely unfit for settlement. The climate is severe for several months in the winter, that is to say, cold

"snaps" are frequent; but the season is dry and healthy, and we never saw a more robust and rigorous people than those who have lived in it for years. They compare favorably with ourselves in this and in some other respects, and all we can say, in conclusion, is that if intending emigrants from our States bring with them the energy, industry and respect for law and order, which everywhere prevail in Western Canada, they are, in our opinion, certain to succeed.

(Signed.)

William G. Findlay, Tuscumbia, Miller Co., Missouri.
Lincoln Nissley, Los Angeles, California.
H. W. Niles, Melvern, Kansas.

Alberta Hotel, Edmonton, Alberta, British Possessions,
September 13th, 1898.

Editor Herald, Burr Oak, Kansas.

Dear Sir: I came up here from Burr Oak, Kansas, U. S., to see this country, and I beg leave to submit the following:—

First, I find the English a sociable and courteous class of people. They make their own laws here, about the same as we do in the States. They have a duty on imported goods from England almost as high as we have, in order to encourage home industries. A very mild climate in the summer, and, from the looks of the people, a very healthy one. I have been here about a week, and I saw but one sickly looking man since I crossed the line. Their soil is a rich black loam. Wheat, oats and barley are the staple products of the farm, and the large elevators are an index to both quality and quantity raised.

A fine grazing country. I saw nicer cattle and horses on the range than I saw any place this side of St. Paul, Minn. And sheep, I never saw the equal in any of our Western States.

They have about five hours longer daylight in the long summer days than we have, which gives them almost as much daylight in three months to grow a crop as we have in four.

Wood and coal in abundance; coal \$1.50 per ton.

All the tax the farmers have is school tax, which encourages education very much. They have Indian schools the same as we have.

The contented condition of the people shows the prosperity of the country, and at the present rate of immigration homestead entries will soon be a thing of the past. The nearest of any now to Edmonton is 16 miles. Railroad land around Edmonton can be had for \$4.00 per acre. The country is just new, and from the appearance, when its resources are fully developed, will make a very rich country. There are quite a good many of our people here from the States. Hotel accommodations are excellent at nominal rates.

I am offered transportation to Klondyke, but I declined the offer. I am as near as I care to go. There are some 15 in town to-night, and I only learned of two going back again. When I was in the Osark Mountains, 75 miles from the railroad, it seemed further from home than it does here, although I am five times as far.

With best wishes to all, I remain,
Yours respectfully,
(Signed.)

H. E. Faidley.

W. F. McCreary, Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg.

Sir: We, the undersigned, delegates from the States of Kansas, Nebraska and Michigan, having been chosen by a large number of people in our respective districts in the United States to visit Western Canada and report as to its fertility and adaptability for settlement, knowing as we do through our organizations or clubs that large numbers will come to Canada through our report, we respectfully submit this report, with our impressions of the country and will review the trip we have made, being accompanied by Mr. C. W. Speers, of the immigration staff.

We were driven at Brandon to the Experimental Farm, Mr. J. S. Gibson, of the Land Department, accompanied us during the day, with Mr. Speers. The farm presented a beautiful appearance, with its evergreen trees and nicely arranged drive, and seeding was in operation. We were shewn the cattle, and saw some eight steers in prime condition for the English market. They are good grades; we never saw better in color, shape and style. They have been fattened on a small quantity of barley meal with cut straw, and we are

persuaded that beef can be produced more cheaply in Western Canada than in the United States. We saw splendid varieties of Ayrshires, Holsteins, grades and crosses, making general purpose cattle both for milk and beef, and the specimens in each class are as good as we ever saw in the United States; a calf ten months old at 2,000 lbs., Shorthorn bull, 2,200, pure-bred Holstein, 2,240 lbs. The horses were in fine condition, native mares weighing 1,400 lbs., which clearly demonstrates the fact that horses can be raised at a good profit in Canada, as they sell at much higher prices than in the United States, and, like all other stock, are cheaply wintered.

All the straw we examined was free from must and mold, even if exposed to the weather, and makes excellent feed, being very bright in color.

We also saw some fine specimens of hogs—Chester White, Tamworth, Berkshire and Suffolk. Hog raising leaves a good profit to the farmer, as pork is a cent a pound higher here, live weight, than in our country. The poultry were good; the hens had been laying all winter; eggs were bringing 15 cents per dozen; in our country they are worth 8. We did not see one fowl with its comb frosted, and no fire had been used all winter in the hen house.

We visited the large barn and saw a variety of grasses which yield 3½ to 4 tons per acre. The exhibit room displays a wonderful range of production of grain in Western Canada. The wheat was clear like amber, and very hard; barley very good, yielding as high as 60 bushels to the acre. This we consider a good substitute for our corn, and a great fat-producer. Wheat being the staple production, it is turned into cash, and the coarser grain used to finish cattle. We saw oats six feet long, which yielded 97 bushels to the acre on the entire field of 31 acres, and weighed 41 lbs. to the bushel. We saw extra good samples of peas. The Bedford variety, grown and called after the Superintendent of the farm, from a cross of two varieties, was excellent. Samples of sweet corn in the cob were very choice, particularly the Squaw and Corey varieties. Our American corn yielded .45 tons to the acre, used for green fodder. Native hops hung in clusters,

the production of Manitoba, that were equal to the best German hops.

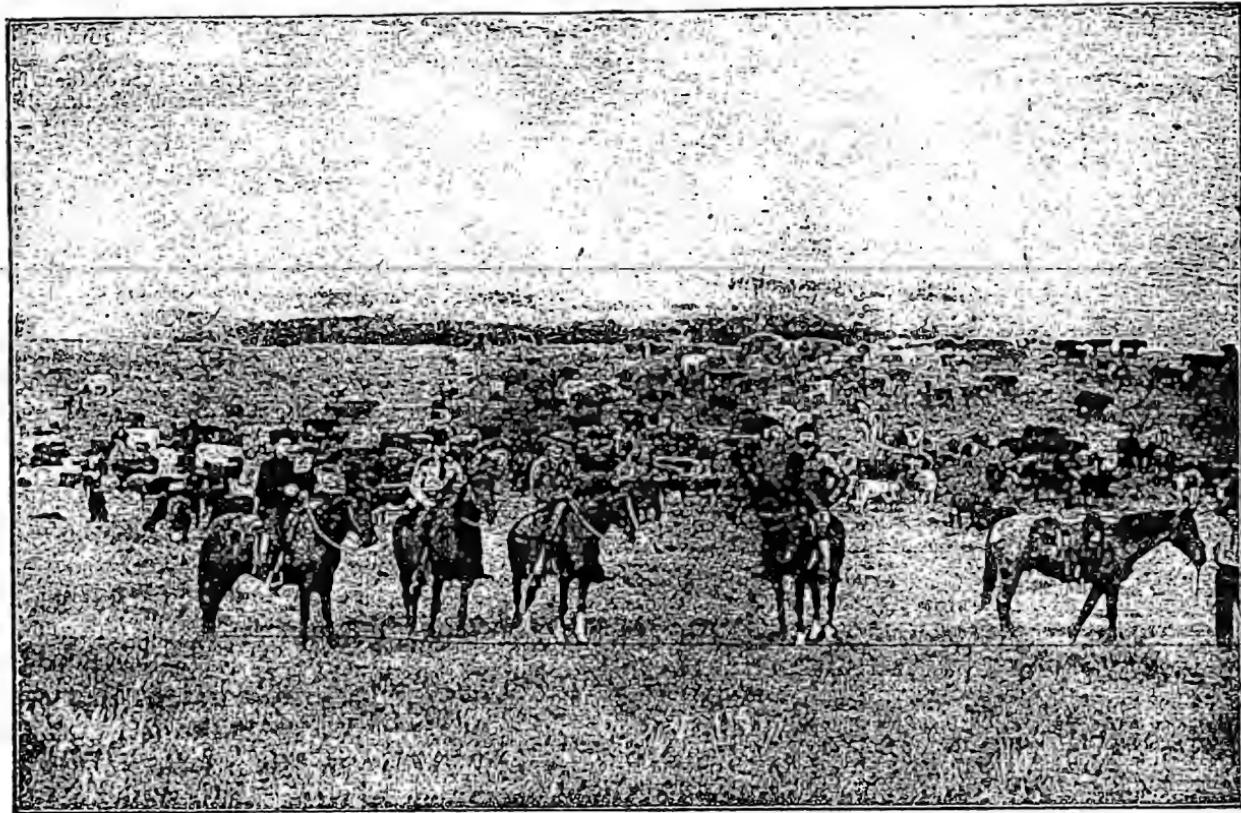
The prices of all farm productions are better than in the United States, and we must admit unanimously that the exhibit was superior to anything we ever saw in any country. Superintendent Bedford was very courteous, took every trouble to give all necessary information. All varieties of trees and shrubs are doing well, and anyone settling can grow timber for use quickly; firewood can be matured in six years. Ornamental shrubbery and hedges can be very successfully grown. We are more than pleased with the wonderful production of Canada.

We also visited the Indian Industrial School, and were received very kindly by the Rev. J. Semmens. The children gave us a hearty welcome, which was manifested by clapping of the hands. This is a wonderful school, under a good discipline, well conducted, and affords every comfort to the pupil. The girls are being taught all the branches of domestic industry; the boys are taught the different trades and farming. The boys have completed the building of a large barn, 34x80 feet, and the work done would reflect credit on any mechanic or carpenter. The wheat grown was very good. Seeding was in progress. We highly appreciated what we saw in this Training School, which has only been in operation two years; the progress is remarkable.

We visited the Dominion Lands Office, and through the courtesy of Mr. Gibson received all the information about homestead lands, getting full particulars as to regulations and settlement duties. We think the Canadian land laws very good and very reasonable and liberal.

We were also conducted by Mr. Speers to the large stables of Burchell & Howie, where 200 head of the finest cattle we ever saw were ready for export; the different classes were pointed out. They are being cheaply fed, and must make a handsome profit to the feeder. We never saw such a stable of cattle before. They will average over 1,600 lbs. and up to 2,300 and 2,500.

We visited the public schools, and they are very superior;



RANCHING SCENE IN WESTERN CANADA.

the hospital, the jail and court house. All these institutions are up to date, efficiently managed, well equipped and faultlessly clean.

We visited the grist mill with 500 barrels capacity, the oatmeal mill in connection; the large saw mill of John A. Christie, where twelve million feet of lumber will be cut this year from the logs brought a thousand miles down the river. This supply of timber in the Pelly district, we are informed by Mr. Speers, will supply eight millions of feet each year for the next twenty consecutive years, and 250 men are now engaged bringing the logs down the river. The prices of lumber are very reasonable; good lumber can be bought for \$14 per thousand; flooring and siding, \$15.50 per thousand; low grades from \$8 to \$10.

We visited the departmental stores of R. I. Strome, where we found boots and shoes and general supplies as cheap as in our country. Mr. Strome was specially interested in showing his prices and very courteous; the large harness emporium of Adams Brothers, where we found good team harness could be purchased \$3 per set cheaper than in the United States; also the hardware store of Mitchell & Brown, where nails and other necessities cost a little more than in our country.

Mr. Charles Whitehead spent a large portion of the day with us, and gave us a great deal of information. We are strongly impressed that the necessities and commodities of life can be purchased or secured in Manitoba at prices all round as cheaply as in the United States, and the intending settler need bring nothing with him, as he can purchase the most modern of all equipment and the latest style of goods. We leave Brandon strongly impressed with its growth and advantages for its age, and will ever think well of the great kindness and courtesy shown us by both the officials and citizens. Its social conditions are all that could be desired in any country, and for its age it would reflect credit on any country, and we can assure any who may visit Brandon to look at the production of Western Canada and visit places of interest, that they will be well received.

We proceeded to Virden, and after the Board of Trade

were convened Mr. Speers introduced us, pointing out the importance of our trip. Virden is a good town, permanent and progressive; six elevators, grist mill and has an excellent farming country around it, being fifty miles west of Brandon. We were driven north of the town, and found a great number of farmers busy seeding; the land in good condition and the soil rich, black loam; buildings good; good water and good wheat, weighing 62 lbs. to the bushel. We were very much pleased with this district. We visited the farm of John Wright, who threshed 9,000 bushels of wheat last year. Stock all in good condition.

We were driven south to Elm Valley and found a prosperous settlement, visiting Charles O'Neill and other farmers on our way. We were shown a flock of three hundred first-class sheep, 480 acres of good land, 265 acres of which are under cultivation; good buildings and good stock. Mr. O'Neill said that he came to Manitoba six years ago in debt.

We passed over a lot of very good country, but it seemed a little lighter than the land of Brandon. There is a great quantity of good land to purchase very cheap, but we think that anyone coming to settle in this district should have some means. We are well impressed with what we have seen, and the Board of Trade and citizens generally extended every courtesy and kindness to make our visit pleasant as well as extend the necessary information.

(Signed.)

Charles Ross, McCook, Neb.

T. A. Welk, Buhler, Kan.

J. D. Langlois, Hutchinson, Kan.

A. D. Welk, Buhler, Kan.

Peter Berg, Durham, Kan.

J. M. Bartel, Buhler, Kan.

N. M. Morgan, Bright, S. D.

Peter Morgan, Mellett, S. D.

Mathias Steffes, Redfield, S. D.

Prince Albert, Sask., 17th August, 1898.
 William F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
 Winnipeg, Man.

Sir: We, the undersigned delegates from Kansas and Nebraska, U. S. A., in reporting the results of our trip to Dauphin, and subsequently to Regina, Prince Albert and the Middle Saskatchewan country, beg to thank you for your promptness upon our arrival in Winnipeg, owing to which we set out at once for Dauphin by the new railway to that settlement. At Dauphin, a town 18 months old, we got board and lodging quite as good as in our own States for about half the money. These liberal charges were not confined to Dauphin. Our party throughout was under the charge of Mr. Mair. We examined the principal cultivated areas in the southern parts of Township 25, Range 19—the great wheat fields of Wishart, Buchanan, Owen, Smith, Ross, Sinclair, the Whitmores, Drinkwaters, etc., and subsequently, others to the north, and never in our experience, have we seen finer grain. The soil, a vegetable mold resting upon clay, is manifestly very fertile. There is no difficulty in clearing the land, if we can use such a term, the scrub being easily uprooted by three horses hitched to an ordinary brush plow. The whole country is watered by numerous streams flowing from the slopes of Riding Mountain, and excellent well water is found everywhere at from 9 to 18 feet. Extensive forests of spruce and tamarac cover the northern parts of the mountain. Wild hops and wild fruit are abundant and ripen in the open air. Vegetation throughout is surprisingly luxuriant, and, without hesitation, we would rank the whole region among the best grain-growing areas of the continent. The output of wheat last year was about 75,000 bushels; but this year it is estimated at over a million. We cannot speak as highly of its stock-raising facilities. The absence of natural hay meadows place it in the background in this respect. We saw excellent timothy, however, which thrives, and the country between this and the Swan River country is a good hay country. Westward, too, lies the homestead lands which now and when fresh surveys are completed will afford comfortable homes to thousands of diligent families. Settle-

ment is speeding in all these regions, reminding us, indeed, of the early days in our own States; and, as we have examined, since our visit to Dauphin, a portion of the great country lying south and east of Prince Albert, we can readily imagine the tide of immigration which will soon flow into the Canadian West.

We drove around the Brandon neighborhood and found the crops in fair condition. The soil in this region appears to be very suitable for grain-growing. On the Experimental Farm we plucked ears of wheat over six inches long and oats over 18 inches, all well filled, and by no means uncommon. Wheat growing is the chief industry in this region, and the vast fields under culture are impressive.

At Regina we drove through the country for miles, observing especially the Callum and other noted farms. The soil in this region is a tenacious clay, which is very deep and productive in wet seasons. The standing grain, we remarked, was very dense, the ears being well filled, and the stems tall and compact. Second crops of wheat are frequently grown here upon stubble, and, though we think the practice reprehensible, yet we must say that the fields we observed so sown were remarkably fine. It requires three large and powerful horses to plow this very heavy clay, and the plow in use does not scour—a serious drawback. When dry seasons occur, too, the yield is meagre; but this is being overcome we were assured by fallowing. Upon the whole it is a wonderful region, but not comparable with other places we have seen for stock raising.

At Prince Albert our most interesting observations of soil and productions began. The town is a flourishing one, with police barracks, handsome public buildings of brick, and numerous private residences of a superior class. Great forests of spruce and pine to the north, but in all other directions innumerable prairies and meadows interspersed with clumps of aspen and other trees give the region a very picturesque and park-like appearance. The soil is unsurpassed, being a deep, rich humus on a sub-soil of clay resting on gravel. Good water is found all over at from 18 to 30 feet, and we can truthfully say that scarcely a section of land in this region is short of a fair amount of timber fit for fencing or fuel.

There is considerable settlement at Carrot River, and every farmer we interviewed had the same story of success, the evidence of which were before our eyes. The Stony Creek country differs materially from Carrot River in being more open and less rolling. The horned cattle we saw here are superior to any we ever saw in our own States. It is impossible, indeed, to overrate the beauty of these vast prairies and luxuriant meadows, whilst the country, though open and plain-like, is yet in general sufficiently supplied with fuel, and to the south a fine forest of conifers offers abundance of lumber.

Beyond the Stony Creek district lies a region known as the Leather River country, into which we were the first delegates to penetrate, Mr. Mair, at our request, extending our trip in that direction as far as Hide-hanging Creek. There is as yet no trail, save an Indian one, into these parts, and the drive revealed a soil richer than any we had yet seen. The wild pea-vine was thickly entangled, and had a luxuriance beyond description. For mixed farming this is an ideal country, and struck us as the most inviting we had ever seen. Cattle are driven in to winter here, but, as yet, there is no settlement whatever, though the region is surveyed into townships in all directions. We were informed that this class of country extends easterly and southeasterly to the Red Deer and Swan River, forming a continuous belt of unsurpassed farming country through which will pass the new line of railway now under construction from Dauphin, and, to the south, the parallel line "The Manitoba and Northwestern."

The sum of our conclusions is that, hitherto, we have seen no region which contains the primary requisites of the farmer in such close proximity. Here land of the first quality, wood, water and hay are to be found in all directions, and free homesteads for tens of thousands of settlers. The farmers scattered thinly throughout the country had the same story. Without exception they are men who went in with little means, or no means at all. All of them had fields of wheat and coarse grain, whose quality was uniformly excellent, and fine herds of fat cattle and flocks of sheep, which, grazing around every homestead, seemed to thrive in this region, for everybody

keeps them. Pigs do well, and poultry, the settlers generally having large flocks of turkeys, geese and pigeons.

Amongst the oldest settlers in the region are Messrs. Jackson, Meyers, Lowry, Dinsmore, Plant, Campbell, and, in the Stony Creek district, further east, Messrs. Aikenhead, Wentworth and others, all of whom are extensive farmers. We saw land here which had been cropped for 18 years still yielding abundantly. Mr. Plant told us he began with nothing, and has now considerable money loaned out, and that he would not take \$3,000 for his farm. Another man began, he assured us, "with 25 cents and a pig," and is now well-to-do. Messrs. Aikenhead and Wentworth are farmers who emigrated from the United States and found their way into this country some years ago. The latter only settled on his present homestead in 1894. He had sunk everything in South Dakota, and had but two horses, two yearling heifers and \$5.00 in cash when he began anew in Canada. To-day he has a fine farm, and has recently sold 25 head of cattle, retaining 74; has 12 horses, 7 pigs, a large flock of sheep, hundreds of hens, turkeys and geese, makes 40 lbs. of butter a week, after keeping his family, and owes nothing.

The great drawback of the district is the want of a railway, and a consequent market for wheat, the nearest point being Prince Albert.

Spring calves at present at Stony Creek bring \$8; yearlings, \$15 to \$20; 2-year-olds, \$30; 3 year old steers averaging from 1,200 to 1,400 lbs., bring, at present, 3c. per lb. live weight. Buyers visit the homesteads and lift the cattle and sheep from the pastures at these prices. We ascertained the prices of farming implements and other requirements of the settler, and found them, in most cases, to be very reasonable.

We cannot close our report without referring to some other matters of interest to our people. In the first place, the school law in the Territories is of a liberal character. Ten children entitle the parents to a school, 70 per cent. of the teacher's salary being paid out of the educational grant. In every settlement in the region described there are ample school facilities, the buildings being also used as churches and assembly rooms. Taxation is very light. Indeed, many of the set-

tlers assured us that, so far, they had never been called upon for taxes at all. The roads are of nature's making, and are everywhere excellent, the bridges, etc., being built by grants of government money, which are fairly apportioned to each district.

It is not necessary to be present in person in order to enter a homestead. A resident in the United States can empower a proper party here to do so for him. In fact, the Dominion Land Regulations seem devised to facilitate, in every way, the objects of the *bona fide* homesteader. Again, we must refer to the law and order which prevail throughout these scattered communities. A few Mounted Police, stationed at long intervals, make life-and-property perfectly safe in all directions.

In conclusion, we urge upon intending emigrants from our States to the regions described to settle there, if possible, in groups of families. Eight or ten families so settling would be entitled to a school at once, and the sense of isolation and homesickness would scarcely be felt. The advantages of such a plan are manifest in other ways. But, should the individual family "go it alone," we can assure any such of a hospitable reception and ready help from the people of the Prince Albert district.

(Signed.)

George S. Bennett, Hall's Summit, Kansas.
E. F. Brooks, Westphalia, Kansas.
S. W. Bennett, Hall's Summit, Kansas.
John Flannery, Stuart, Nebraska.

We, the undersigned delegates from Michigan, U. S. A., reached Prince Albert too late to join the delegates from Kansas and Nebraska in their trip to Carrot River and Stony Creek, but can fully vouch for the accuracy of the above report as regards Prince Albert and its adjacent country, which we carefully examined.

(Signed.)

W. W. Burnette, Harrison, Mich.
A. E. Doty, Harrison, Mich.

Winnipeg, Man., 15th September, 1898.
William F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg, Man.

Sir: Our party consisted of A. T. McFee, of Kent; Thomas Howie, of Prescott, and John Church, of Morville, in the State of Iowa; H. W. Miles, of Melvern, Kansas; W. G. and W. M. Finlay and W. F. Birdsong, of Tescumbia, Missouri, the foregoing places in our respective States being our post office addresses. Our principal object was to see the region contributory to Yorkton. We did not stop on the way; yet the evidences of successful husbandry in continuous fields of wheat and small grain, mostly in the stock, were manifest in all directions, and the beautiful natural features of the country strongly tempted us to a closer examination.

We found the town overcrowded with immigrants, visitors and sportsmen. We visited the "creamery" in town—a highly important adjunct to the rapidly growing dairying interests of the region. The settlers have generally supplied themselves with English "hand separators," made under a Danish patent, costing from \$60 up, but several farmers now run their machines with small gasoline engines at a nominal expense. The respective creams are carefully tested at the factory, and strength noted; the butter is then made every morning by a scrupulously clean process, and is shipped by the Government, mainly to British Columbia. After deducting cost of manufacture and sale, the net proceeds are divided monthly, *pro rata*, amongst the farmers who contribute the cream. The output at the Yorkton creamery under this admirable system, which is ahead of anything known to us in our States, was, last year, 50,000 lbs. of first-class butter, which finds an immediate market, and the benefit of the institution in stimulating dairying is very great. One farmer's wife received in a single season over \$400 in cash for her cream.

Our first drive was to the Wallace district, east of Yorkton. For a few miles out the soil resembles that in the neighborhood of Winnipeg, as it does also to the north and south of the town, though lighter, since the plow scours readily. Towards Wallace it is a sandy loam resting upon a light yellowish clay, mixed with finely comminuted limestone, and the

crops we saw bore evidence of its quality. There is a good deal of homestead land available in this quarter, and to the south of the railway line. Railway lands are also to be had at an upset price of \$3 per acre, and there are also lands of the Yorkton Colonization Co. for sale, but these are held at a higher price. Besides these there are cancelled pre-emptions, and, here and there, occupiers who are willing to sell or rent improved lands with buildings at reasonable rates.

The "Beaver Hills," where we crossed them, is a very good country, more rolling, of course, than elsewhere, with plentiful prairies, though abundantly timbered with aspen large enough for fuel and rails. In the main range of the hills, however, there is a dense forest some hundred miles in length and forty in breadth, where is much large poplar fit for sawing into lumber, and which will be a great boon to settlers in the future, if spared from fire. The soil, too, of the hills is excellent, and of the limy nature which characterizes so much of this country.

Mr. Seeman's farm at Theodore is rented on shares by a Mr. Osborne, who came from the States last March, and who had this season 140 acres in wheat and 200 in oats. Owing to the repressive spring and dry June, the great heat in July and the bad weather of the latter part of August here, as in some other parts of Canada, the yield has suffered, and his wheat was still in the stalk, and about 18 acres of oats were still uncut. The wheat, though discolored by the weather, was uninjured by frost, as also the oats in stalk, but those uncut were rather badly touched. The yield of the former will be about 18 to 20 bushels to the acre, of the latter about 40, and this may be taken as a fair criterion of this season's crop condition in this neighborhood. Notwithstanding the unusual weather, the return is a fair one, though not comparable with last year's yield, which in many parts of the Yorkton district ran up to 40 of wheat and 100 and over of oats.

There are no finer vegetables than those grown in the well-kept gardens we saw along the White Sand river. Indian corn in the gardens looked well, and the sugar beets were of the best quality, and give promise, perhaps, of a great future industry. At Ebenezer a large number of poor Germans set-

tled some years ago, who are now in excellent shape, with good crops and large herds of cattle. There are Danes, too, and Orkneymen, who have colonized in other parts, and are doing well. The principal occupants of the land are, of course, Canadians and people from the British Islands, not forgetting a good sprinkling of Americans. All told, the inhabitants of the Yorkton region are, as yet, but a drop compared with the wave of immigration which it will yet receive. The chief employment is cattle raising, an industry which has increased in six years from 5,000 to 25,000 head, not to speak of sheep, which thrive wonderfully and are increasing fast. The cattle raised here are the very finest we have ever seen, and not less than 5,000 fat beasts will be carried out of this district by the railway this year. These are almost entirely three-year-olds, which, fed upon the prairie and upon prairie hay in winter, run up to 1,600 or 1,700 lbs. live weight. But the cattle are sent into as well as out of this region. They are sent up in the fall from the south in poor condition to be wintered and fattened here—a significant fact. There are no very large herds in the region, farmers holding from 50 to 400 head. Everyone is more or less connected with the industry and grain-growing is largely carried on in connection with it. As the ranges become limited through homesteading, the cattle-raisers will go north, where, we are assured, there is a vast region with even better resources for stock-raising than we found here. Indeed, we ourselves saw a band of 700 magnificently fat cattle which had been driven down from the Prince Albert region, some 250 miles off, and which were intended for immediate shipment to England. Meanwhile, hay is in fair supply throughout the country generally, and many farmers, in addition to their own cattle, winter for others at \$5.50 a head. Grain-growing is, of course, an increasing industry, and the time may come when cattle in the immediate district must be largely straw-fed in winter.

Homesteading in the region described will go on as it has in our own States and grain-growing in time will limit the ranges of cattle, for the conditions of soil and climate fairly suit it. There is occasional danger of frost, and the soil generally is not of the very heaviest. But it is productive, and

grain-growing is a success, as we have seen even in an adverse season. This being the case, a fair herd of stock can be maintained on a limited pasture; dairying and poultry-raising can be developed to any extent, and good living and independence be reached by all who strive for them in this country. The amount of capital required is from \$500 to \$1,000. This is the conclusion we have reached after careful observation and enquiry, and we shall not hesitate to recommend the region to intending emigrants from our own States.

As regards rates of living, we have found the customary Canadian dollar-a-day hotel in this region furnishing as good meals, and, where not overcrowded, as good accommodation as can be found in our own States at the prices. Lumber is comparatively high-priced at Yorkton, owing to the absence of spruce forests in the region and the consequent long haul. Rough lumber sells at \$20 a thousand; but farm machinery and household supplies are reasonable in price, and taxes are so low as scarcely to be felt. School houses throughout our trip came in sight wherever there were settlers' homes, and we found that schools were carried on where there were but six children in attendance, although ten, we believe, are required to entitle a school to the full grant of 70 per cent. Good government is as perfectly preserved as in any other part of Canada.

(Signed.)

William G. Findlay,

Tuscumbia P. O., Miller Co., Missouri.

William M. Findlay,

Tuscumbia P. O., Miller Co., Missouri.

W. F. Birdsong,

Tuscumbia P. O., Miller Co., Missouri.

H. W. Miles, Melvern, Kansas.

John Church, Morville, Iowa.

A. T. McFee, Kent P. O., Iowa.

Thomas Howie, Prescott, Iowa.

THE CANADIAN NORTHWEST.

Editor News-Herald.

Please find space in your columns for a few items in answer to some questions about the Canadian Northwest. Our party left Kansas City, August 16th, on the Burlington railroad, and arrived in Winnipeg after forty hours' run. Winnipeg is a city of 40,000 inhabitants and has eleven railroads. The city is built of white brick, has very wide streets, and we noticed they run their street cars only six days of the week. At their festivities they raise the Stars and Stripes. The Red-River-Valley surrounding the city is very level prairie of rich soil. Going west on the Canadian Pacific railroad the country is more rolling, and as far as Regina—356 miles—is a fine farming country, well improved, and at this time, the farmers being about half through harvesting, good crops of wheat, oats and barley were seen all along the line.

Stopping off at Brandon, we visited the Experimental Farm and saw some fine specimens of grains, grasses and fruits suitable to that climate. Going west, the country from Regina, the capital of the Northwest Territory, to Calgary, near the Rockies and 483 miles west of Regina, is strictly a ranching country. Large herds of cattle are seen and the land is leased from the government at two cents per acre for that purpose. Stopping off here, we drove out over the country, which is very rolling and produces a luxuriant pasture grass. The stock is fine and fat and is exported to the English market without being fed grain. They range all the year except in very severe storms, when they are fed hay.

Going 200 miles north from here across the Saskatchewan river we came to the town of Edmonton, north of which is a fine grain country, and the best crops of wheat here will go 40 to 50 bushels to the acre; oats, 80 to 90; barley, 50 to 60. Here we visited with my brother, D. Crozier, who left Olathe last spring to try his fortune in this far northern country. He has a good crop and estimates it at 10,000 bushels, and is well pleased with the country so far. Returning through Southern Manitoba, we saw in some places light crops and in other places good crops, large barns and comfortable dwellings.

Several towns through Manitoba have from five to eight elevators.

Arriving again at Winnipeg, we went north on the Dauphin and Northwestern railroad, and in company with a party from Illinois stopped off at Dauphin, 120 miles north of Winnipeg. It is a fine grain country, with deep black soil. Threshing had just commenced and wheat was turning out 30 bushels to the acre and selling for about 50 cents per bushel. Getting a team, government tent and camping outfit, we proceeded to Swan River, 120 miles north of Dauphin, and in advance of the railroad now in progress to that place. We camped in a heavy-timbered country, part prairie and part timber. The soil is more sandy, but the well-matured samples of wheat, oats, barley, potatoes and garden vegetables show it to be very fertile. The first settler came in this spring; now 85,000 acres are taken and more being taken as fast as entries can be made. Moose and deer are plentiful. The railroad is expected here this fall. There was some frost on the 8th of September which cut the potatoes and garden vegetables—too late, however, to do any injury, as the crops were fully matured.

Throughout the trip of 4,800 miles we found the government commissioners liberal and obliging.

Respectfully,

J. Crozier.

Winnipeg, 3rd November, 1898.

Having visited the Canadian Northwest as a delegate from Higginsville, Lafayette Co., Miss., I beg to submit the following report on the two points I visited. Leaving Winnipeg, I visited the Experimental Farm at Brandon, and was surprised to see the immense capabilities of the country, as well as the splendid stock kept by the Department; it was interesting to see the experiments being made on them with the various feeds. On my road to Edmonton I stopped off at Wetaskiwin, a lively little colony about 40 miles south of Edmonton. The country, rolling park-like prairie, is well settled on either side of the track, and settlers seem to be doing well. There is a fine government creamery running here, which turns out

thousands of pounds of butter. From here I went to Edmonton and inspected the country and settlement to the north. I found surprising yields of grain of all descriptions. One farmer I visited threshed out of 175 acres:

600 bushels of wheat from 15 acres (40 bushels per acre.)

600 bushels of barley from 10 acres (60 bushels per acre.)

15,000 bushels of oats from 150 acres (100 bushels per acre.)

The samples were all No. 1.

I also saw a considerable number of stock. Swine do well, and there is no disease amongst them; they are a good source of income to the farmer. The cattle on the range beat anything I ever saw. Fat and ready-for-beef, fully-matured and ripened on the nutritious grasses of the prairie. I am firmly convinced that this country offers better facilities for a poor man than any I have ever seen.

(Signed.)

W. R. Corser,
Higginsville, Lafayette Co., Miss.

Winnipeg, November 15th, 1898.

The journey that we undertook in company, namely, Abramham Kraker, Dietrich Bartel, Bernhard Pauls, Abr. Duck and Cornelius Hiebert, has so far turned out satisfactorily.

From Kansas City we obtained our tickets through the instrumentality of Mr. Crawford, Government Agent.

We journeyed continually to Gretna, stopping over a few days in the neighborhood of Winkler, till the 5th of November. Left on the 5th of November for Winnipeg, and from there to Rosthern, arriving there late on the evening of the 6th, where Mr. Ens met us and attended to our wants, accompanying us to the hotel. On the seventh we crossed the country in between the two rivers. On the 8th we went south and southwest from Rosthern to see over the country, and soon we spent the time till the 12th, driving through the country in various directions to see the general features of the country. The impression we obtained was quite satisfactory, and in proof of this A. Duck and A. Kraker at once invested in a half section each. We Kansas people, though, are inclined to

think twice on account of the winter. Still, the fine wheat that we inspected in the elevator at Rosthern was more than gratifying and proof of the country's capabilities.

Respectfully,

(Signed.)

Kornelius Hiebert.
B. Pauls.
D. Bartel.

DELEGATE OF RENO COUNTY, KANSAS.

I left Kansas City on the 5th day of April, 1898, for the Northwest; arrived at Winnipeg on the 7th of April.

I have travelled through Manitoba, Assiniboia and Alberta. In these three provinces there is most everything a man wants in farming and stock-raising. I have travelled about 2,500 miles by railroad and about 500 miles by team.

Land can be bought cheaper there and on better terms than it can in the States. There is no trouble for a man that is willing to work to make a start there. Others have done it. The people there are willing to see a poor man come there; they are willing to help him along. It is my intention to settle in the Northwest of Canada. I will go between now and spring, and a good many others, if they can get off.

Yours, etc.,

J. D. Langlois,
Hutchinson, Reno Co., Kansas.

June 25th, 1898.

Manhattan, Kansas, May 28th, 1898.

L. Rankin, Immigration Agent, Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Sir: Having just returned from the Northwest, being a delegate from Manhattan Free Land Club, I will simply state what I saw and found out from conversation with settlers. I left here March 22nd, and was met at Kansas City by Mr. Crawford, a Government agent, who took charge of delegates and settlers, and went through with them to Winnipeg, Manitoba. When we got there it was snowing and rather colder than in Kansas at that time of the year. We were

driven around the country at Winnipeg, and the farmers seemed to be prospering, but on account of the snow on the ground we were unable to judge the quality of the land. A few days afterwards we took the Manitoba and Northwestern R. R. to a place called Yorkton, a thriving town of over 350 inhabitants situated in the Province of Assiniboia. We were driven all around the country, and though we could not see the ground on account of the snow, judging from the fine wheat and oats we saw at every place that was visited, the country is hard to beat. We were told that 30 and 40 bushels of wheat to the acre is what is considered the usual crop and oats yield all the way from 50 to 100 bushels per acre, and all that of the best quality, also heavy in weight. The cattle we saw, though only fed on oats, straw and hay, were in as good condition as cattle in this country that had been fed on corn. We were told that they sell steers off of grass that weigh from 1,400 to 1,600 lbs., and are sent to Montreal for the foreign trade. The land in appearance is similar to the western part of America, some portions being level prairie, others rolling, and others timber. There is plenty of water, timber for fuel and fencing, and within easy reach. All the country needs to my idea to be one of the best is more settlement, and it seems strange to me that people will stay where they have to give most all they raise for rent, when land can be taken in the Northwest as a Government claim, or can be bought at from \$2. to \$3 an acre. We heard no complaints from the farmers as to hard times, as they all appeared to be doing well and had plenty of stock and grain on hand. From what I could learn I should judge that the Northwest is the place for a poor man to go, as with perseverance and work it will not be very long until he is well fixed and independent. Before I close I must not forget to thank all of the Government agents and officials for the kindness shown to us, and also the people of Yorkton, who did all they could to show us what their country really was.

(Signed.)

Yours truly,
E. C. Jackson.

NORTHWEST DELEGATES.

They Write of the Great Canadian West.

What They Witnessed After Leaving Yorkton — Stock and Grain the Finest Ever Seen—Cheap Land for Prospective Settlers—Delegates Delighted With Everything.

Brandon, March 31.—Before leaving for the Edmonton districts the Kansas and Iowa delegates granted "The Hard Wheat Belt" an interview in regard to what they had seen in their visits during the day.

GRAINS AND GRASSES.

In this magnificent wheat district one of the finest points of interest was naturally the grains and grasses. The samples of these are shown by Canadian immigration agents in the different States, and the glowing accounts given in immigration pamphlets led them to expect something much above the ordinary, and they were not disappointed. As Mr. Lank said, "The grains and grasses were much superior to anything I ever saw," and all agreed that they were much better than those shown by the immigration agents. They most gladly testified to the pleasure it gave them to see with their own eyes what they had heard about the Canadian West. They were unanimous in stating that the agricultural possibilities of the country had not been a particle over-stated by any agent or in any literature used by the agents. The wheat they saw was all No. 1 hard, clean, bright and plump. The oats shown were from five to six feet high. In 1897 the yield was 97½ bushels, and the average for five years was 85 bushels, and that, too, without manuring the land. They saw over twenty varieties of grasses, from the dry upland grass, eight inches long, to the moist bottom land grass, which stood eight feet high. These varieties included the Awnless Brome grass, which furnishes the best of pasture throughout the season, however dry it may be, and also the wheat top native grass, and other varieties which by their perfume and quality showed that they were first-class for fodder. In this connection men-

tion should be made of the corn shown. They were surprised to find their own American corn growing eight feet high, cut before maturing for fodder purposes and producing forty-five tons to the acre. This corn is cut up and put into the silo for ensilage. They were also interested in the large yields of roots and vegetables; for instance, one acre of potatoes without hoeing yielded 600 bushels.

FEEDING CATTLE.

As the majority of the delegates were big stock raisers, Mr. Speers took them down by the river to Burchell & Howey's feeding barns. Here they were greatly surprised at the magnificent lot of cattle that were being finished. Mr. T. J. Wilson, of Dickinson County, Kansas, who has been in the cattle business for nineteen years in the great corn-producing State, and who handles and feeds hundreds every year, says that they were the best he had ever seen. The weights averaged from 2,100 to 2,300, and Mr. Lank, who has seen fat cattle in every State in the Union, on the Chicago market and elsewhere, declared that he had never seen anything like them. This high praise was concurred in by Mr. S. Bricker and the other members of the party.

LOW PRICES.

The delegates also visited the large departmental stores. The proprietors conducted them through all the departments of their retail institutions and quoted the prices of the goods examined. The delegates, in comparing the values of the different commodities, were unanimous in the opinion that as low prices and as good value prevailed here as in any State in the Union. Intending settlers need fear nothing in this respect, as they can purchase as cheaply in Western Canada as anywhere, a matter of considerable importance. The numerous large stores, with immense stocks of first-class up-to-date goods, far surpassed anything they had seen in much larger places in Kansas or Iowa. All this they thought was the sign of a prosperous country.

After leaving Brandon our next stop was at Calgary, in the South Alberta district, but in the one thousand miles of travel between these points we were greatly surprised to find that

towns from 200 to 3,500 population all along the route were built up with good substantial brick and stone buildings and residences. The stores, as in other parts visited, carrying large and well assorted stocks of goods, evidences to us of thrifty and prosperous places.

(From the Calgary Daily Herald.)

Saturday's delayed train brought to town probably the best deputation on immigration that has ever paid a visit to Alberta, and their experience so far since their arrival in Calgary has impressed them very strongly with the advantages which Alberta presents to settlers.

At the stockyards they saw a large number of beef steers which had been brought down from the north which astonished the visitors, particularly when they were assured that they had never been fed grain of any kind or fodder, but prairie hay, and after thorough examination they pronounced them to be superior to cattle fed on corn and hay in their country up to what they call half-fed.

They next visited the abattoir, where P. Burns & Co. are slaughtering cattle for the Kootenay market. Here they saw 30 or 40 carcasses of prairie-fed steers and were surprised to find three and four-year-old steers dressed from 750 to 800 pounds of beef, and this in the absence of grain feeding. They pronounced these cattle to be equal to the best fed butcher's cattle in their country, but of course not up to the cattle fed specially for export. The prairie-fed mutton also claimed their admiration. They also saw 300 hogs which are being fed and which they pronounced very good, but not so breedly as they should be. They were delighted to hear that such a thing as hog cholera was totally unknown in this country, and that hog-raising was one of the coming industries to men of experience in Alberta.

Their next visit was to the creamery and cold storage, where the superintendent explained thoroughly the government system of working the creameries and the success that had been achieved during the last season, where the butter was marketed, etc., etc., and that the patrons had received 15c. net for their butter. They pronounced the creamery

and cold storage the best they had ever seen and very far ahead of any in operation in their country. A number of their friends will, when they come here, go largely into the dairying business, and they were delighted to know that it was on such a favorable and solid basis.

NORTH OF CALGARY.

At Edmonton our first trip was fourteen miles north to Mr. Carson's, where T. J. Wilson secured a sample from a bin of 7,000 bushels of oats which tested 44 lbs. to the bushel. The next place was Mr. Sutherland's, where they secured samples of wheat which they found to be much better than that sent out-by-the-Dominion-Government. It went 55 bushels to the acre last harvest. Some potatoes were secured, which Mr. Lank and Mr. Wilson brought home.

Churches and school houses they also found to abound wherever they were demanded.

We found only one man who wanted to sell out, but found on questioning that no reasonable price would satisfy him. We found quite a heavy snow fall for the time of year, which all settlers were glad to see, as it is always a forerunner of a good season. At no time did the thermometer get below zero during our stay. On our return trip we found the farmers in Western Manitoba had begun seeding and all the way along were putting in the spring crop.

C. W. Cooper.
R. J. Lank.
T. J. Wilson.
H. F. Gartner.

IN CANADIAN NORTHWEST.

The Dickinson County Delegation Arrives Safely at Yorkton—
What They Think of the Country—Other
Other Items of Interest.

Several of Dickinson County's best citizens left Abilene on March 22 for the far Northwest on a prospecting tour, and

they write as follows what they think of the country:—

At the outset we endorse the statements made to us by the agents as to the resources of the Canadian Northwest. We have seen grain in bulk, wheat, oats and barley, which are better than the samples shown to us in Kansas. We arrived in Yorkton on Sunday morning, March 27, the train having been delayed by a snow storm, which did not at all alarm the farmers we conversed with, as they say a good crop of snow means a good crop of grain; nevertheless, the snow prevents an examination of the land, and we had to judge of its quality by the grain, the hay and straw and the live stock we saw. We have seen stables a quarter of a mile from the house without any wire stretched between, which shows us that South Dakota blizzards are unknown in the Canadian Northwest, and the farmers here tell us they don't know what a blizzard is; horses winter on the prairie and turn out fat in the spring. We have seen abundant proof of this. Cattle are stabled or running in and out of open sheds, and those wintered in open sheds were in first-class condition. They are fed on straw and prairie hay; young stock sometimes on oat sheaves. Not only did we see cattle feeding in this way, but we saw and examined the manure piles where herds of 80 and 130 head were being wintered. Cattle are better here at this time of the year than in Kansas. We saw none poor or in thin condition, all good and thrifty, in fact, many fat enough for beef. Cattle here are larger than in Kansas. Water is easily obtained from wells or from holes cut in the ice of the creeks. Crotched stick, long pole, a short rope and big bucket is the machinery used by Mr. Frank Bull for watering 80 head of stock on his farm, two miles from Yorkton. His neighbor, J. Snell, cuts a hole in the ice at the creek, the water rising to the surface and 130 drink at their own free will.

We saw between 5,000 and 6,000 bushels of oats in one granary, and 7,000 bushels of wheat in another. One farmer started farming in the Northwest with a yoke of oxen, a cow, a plow, and a wife and family to keep. His house is of logs, with a stone dairy near; in his implement shed is a cream separator. On the same section a Mr. Snell threshed 19,000 bushels of oats two years ago. He bought 80 head of cattle to

eat the straw, turned them out on the prairie when the snow was gone and sold them in the fall, clearing over \$1,000. The sum of taxes in 1897 on a half section, with the above mentioned cattle, fifteen horses, and all the rest of the personal property was \$18, not including road tax of one day's work of man and team for each quarter section. The land survey is the same here as in Kansas. School districts are five miles square and there must be twelve children of school age (5 to 16), and if there be an average attendance of six, 70 per cent. of the teacher's salary is paid by the government of the Northwest Territories. A subsidy is paid by the Federal Government to the Local Governments of the Provinces and Territories, so there is nothing here like out State tax. There is a government creamery at Yorkton which manufactured 50,000 lbs. of butter last year.

Mr. H. Harris settled four miles south of Yorkton in 1889, originally from England, but had spent a few years in Ontario. He tells us he began farming here with a team of horses, one cow, harrow, a wife and two children. He bought a plow on time and began to work. He has now 58 head of cattle, ten horses, a very good farm and a very comfortable log house. We have seen enough to know that these cases are not exceptional. We believe that to a farmer 160 acres here is worth more than the same quantity of land in Kansas for farming purposes. Yet in this district homesteads can be had free and good land can be bought for \$4 per acre within two miles of the town. The reason for this is plain—land is plenty and people are scarce. South of the Saskatchewan, in the Northwest Territories, alone is an area, roughly speaking, 500 miles by 250 miles, occupied by less than 100,000 people. As to the cost of living, we find a good stock of staples in the stores, although the town has only a population of 350; woolen goods are much cheaper, cottons are dearer, hardware a little cheaper, nails, for example, half a cent cheaper. Implements—binders about \$25 higher, gang plows cheaper, walking plows dearer, binding twine and barbed wire same price, or a little dearer. Heavy horses are worth half as much again here, cattle cheaper, and are sold fat off grass for export to England. Harness a trifle dearer, furniture about the same.

The leading hotel in the town is lighted with acetylene gas and heated by hot air from a wood-burning furnace, for wood is the fuel here, both in town and country. We have felt at home all the time of our visit, and have not been asked to take the oath of allegiance. A man may have property and still remain a citizen of the United States. We have seen enough to believe Canada is a free country.

Mr. Kohl, late of Herrington, goes no further with us, as he has decided to locate near the German settlements, north of Yorkton. We go on to see other parts of the Territories, but expect to return to this district.

(Signed.)

Samuel Bricker.
Lionel E. Fife.
J. D. Haffner.
C. D. Hatcher.
W. E. Jackson.
W. M. Hill.
C. W. Cooper.
R. J. Lank.
Herman Gartner.
Charles Kohl.
T. J. Wilson.

REPORT OF A. H. SPADE AND CHARLES WEST,
DELEGATES FROM KANSAS, U. S. A.

Winnipeg, 4th April, 1898.

We, the undersigned, delegates from Admire, Kansas, last month visited the district lying between Red Deer and Edmonton, which from information received, and our own observation, we believe to be a fine small grain farming country, dotted over with small clumps of trees, principally poplar and spruce, thus affording abundance of timber for building and fuel.

A settler near Wetaskiwin told us of a vein of coal, twenty feet thick, which crops out on the bank of the river near his place, thirty miles from that town.

We visited the elevators and mills at Edmonton, examined

the grain for ourselves, and have never seen a finer quality of wheat, oats and barley than was there shown us.

We were told by reliable men that the oat crop went 40 lbs. to the bushel, and one cattleman told us from 120 acres he threshed 11,000 bushels of oats, but the average yield reported by farmers was from 60 to 80 bushels of oats; wheat averaged from 30 to 50 bushels, and barley from 70 to 75 bushels.

Hay and water of fine quality are abundant, and every settler seemed to be prosperous and contented.

About 16 miles southeast of Edmonton we found a bunch of Galloway-cattle, of which five were already sold for shipment to the coast, their weight averaging about 1,300 lbs., fed exclusively on hay, but in fine condition. These cattle sold for 3½ cents live weight, and are good beef cattle.

Wheat was selling at 60 cents, and oats at 26 cents when we were there.

Several creameries are running at points from Olds up to Edmonton, and are giving good satisfaction to the farmers. Plenty of good government land can be had in this district about 15 miles from the railway, except around Edmonton, where about 26 miles out it can be got.

We also visited the district lying south of Moose Mountain, near the Alameda land office, last month.

We found it a beautiful district of country, the farmers prosperous and contented, some of them reporting that they sold from \$500 to \$3,500 worth of wheat last season. Stock looks exceedingly well, and one herd of Shorthorns owned by a Scotchman named Cheyne are in wonderfully fine condition, considering they were fed only on hay. Two-year-old steers sold for about \$35, and yearlings for \$25.

Mr. James Thompson's herd of 50 or 60 cattle on his farm south of Moose Mountain are in very fine shape, and were fed mostly on wheat straw. The farmers in this district speak very encouragingly of the result of wheat raising, which last year, at a very low estimate, was 30 bushels to the acre; the price when we were there was about 75 cents. They appeared to have no difficulty in obtaining water, and coal is readily bought at a reasonable price from Estevan coalfields,

and wood is plentiful on the mountain for both building purposes and fuel.

This is mainly open prairie, and we believe is a good farming district and well adapted for small grain raising and cattle land. Hay can be obtained readily.

We drove from Alameda to Moosomin, and found the latter a thriving town with a fine prosperous farming district around it. Several elevators are in the town, and we noticed from two to six elevators of large capacity in most of the towns we passed through.

Knowing what we do of the scarcity of land, and the high prices asked for it in the States, we believe that men of energy can find no better place to make a home than in the Moose Mountain or Edmonton district, and we purpose, as soon as we can realize on our property, to move north and settle in Western Canada.

(Signed.)

A. H. Spade,
Charles West.

GERMAN MENNONITES SELECT ROSTHERN AS A PLACE FOR SETTLEMENT.

About the 10th April, 1898, we, the undersigned delegates from Hutchinson, State of Kansas, arrived in Winnipeg, and visited the Experimental Farm at Brandon, and were driven around the country near Virden.

Then we visited Edmonton, and were shown the land northeast of that town, and were well pleased with that district. We then went to Rosthern, on the Prince Albert line, and found a large settlement of our own fellow countrymen, German Mennonites. The first settlers came in six years ago, poor; none of them had means of any account, either cash or stock. Some started with a yoke of oxen, and we now find them putting in from 50 to 100 acres of wheat, owning farm machinery, with comfortable buildings, and some grist mills, two small elevators, and good stores, where everything necessary for the farmer, including machinery, can be bought at reasonable prices.

After looking over all the districts mentioned in the report we decided to locate in the Rosthern district and have selected homesteads about sixty miles from the town.

A good many homesteads can still be had near the town, and a few within three miles of it.

We can fully recommend this district to our fellow countrymen who are looking for new homes, and believe this will be one of the finest German settlements in the country.

J. A. Welk,
J. M. Bartlet,
Peter Berg.
Abraham Welk.

THREE-YEAR-OLD STEERS WEIGH 2,500 LBS. EACH.

Butler, Kansas, May 5th, 1898.

Benjamin Davies, Esq., Canadian Government Agent,
St. Paul, Minn.

Sir: Having just returned from a visit to Western Canada to inspect the farming land which is set apart for homesteads.

The first place we stopped at was Brandon, Man., where we found the farmers in a most prosperous condition. We saw three-year-old steers which had been fed on straw till February 2nd, after which they got meal, four of the herd weighed 2,500 lbs. each, and the balance went 1,300. All the horses we saw were of a superior quality and were in excellent condition. Next we visited Virden, Man., where we were met by the Board of Trade, who drove us into the country and showed us every courtesy, where we found things pretty much the same as about Brandon. Then we went on west to the beautiful district of Edmonton. The first farmer we visited told us he raised last year 37½ bushels of wheat to the acre, which by test went 64 lbs. to the bushel, and said he had had as much as 68 bushels to the acre. This gentleman went there from Wisconsin 16 years ago, and on his arrival had just \$30 in his pocket; now he has 400 acres of land, 40 head of cattle, 13 horses, an abundance of farm machinery, fine house and barn, and a good bank account. We also visited other farmers in this section and could not find one who had not done well. In

this district we were very much surprised to find the quantity of good timber to be had, and as for fuel, any amount of coal can be had for the digging. It sticks out of the bank of the river in large quantities. There is plenty of land for sale here at from \$3 to \$7 per acre.

From Edmonton we went on down to Prince Albert, where there is plenty of homestead land, which we believe is as good if not better than any farm lands that lay out doors. Here we met farmers who went there six years ago and had not enough to buy seed, and to-day have suitable buildings and are putting in 100 acres of wheat this season. As this seems to be the Garden of Eden, we both took homesteads, where we intend to move in the fall. There is an abundance of water all over this country, and every farmer is in a prosperous condition.

We would advise any man willing to work, and desirous of obtaining a good home, to go to Western Canada, as the people there are as fine as any one would wish to meet, and the advantages for the farmer are greater than can be obtained in any other part of America.

We would like to make this letter longer (volumes could be written on the opportunities of the country), but time will not permit. If any person wants to know any more facts, we will be pleased to give them.

(Signed.)

J. A. Wilk,
J. M. Bartlet,
Butler, Kansas.

Balmoral Hotel, Virden, 29th June, 1898.

To the President of the Virden Board of Trade.

I wish to express my satisfaction with the lands which I have been shown within your district.

Mr. Adamson (who is a gentleman in every respect) acting as my guide, we left Virden Tuesday noon, 28th June, 1898, and traversed the Townships 7, 8, 9, and 10, Ranges 26, 27, 28, and 29, taking the roads nearly in the centre of the homestead lands. I found among these many improved farms on which the crops were in the finest condition, with the exception of some weeds. However, this cannot well be blamed to

the farmer, as we all understand that weeds will grow in any land that is fertile and under all conditions of weather. All men of industry I found with good wheat fields, stock and many improvements on their farms, which speaks well for the country and the class of people in these districts. Along the sides of these fine farms are the unimproved homesteads, consisting of the same soil and the same lay of land, and in the same condition as the valuable farms of which I speak.

Fuel is not so plentiful here, but I understand that native coal is furnished very reasonable, and in this way this fault is mitigated. Water, I understand, can be and is found on every homestead that has been settled, although it sometimes causes the settler to search for a good supply in several places before it is located—so I advise the settler to find water before building.

Expressing my satisfaction of the view of the lands, and giving thanks to the Virden Board of Trade for their kind treatment of me while here,

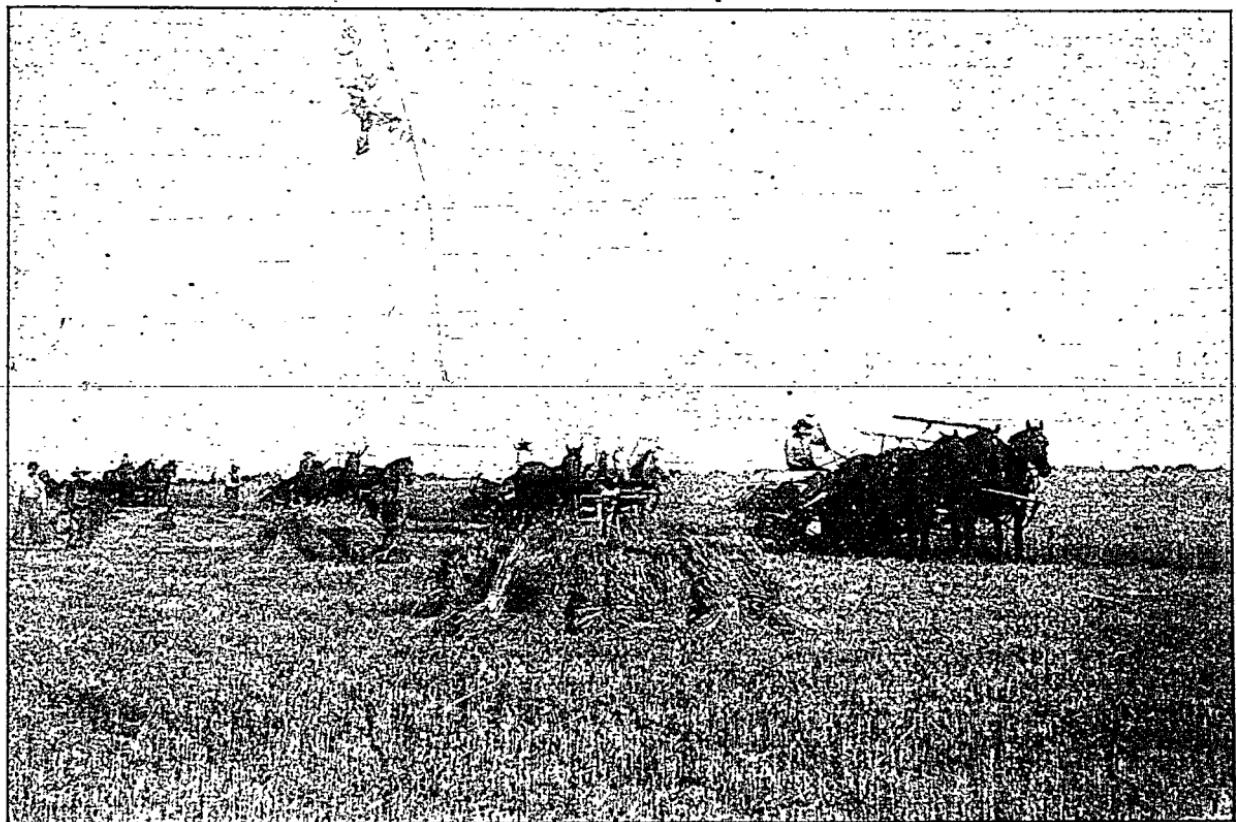
I remain, truly yours,

(Signed.)

R. W. Huff,
Delegate of the Canada Free Land Club,
Burlingame, Kan.

WISCONSIN FARMERS LEAVE FOR WESTERN CANADA.

This morning's Central passenger train carried away a number of good people from this city and county, whose destination is South Edmonton, Alberta County, N. W. T., and they go there with the intention of making that their permanent home. The party consisted of Fred. Weiser, wife and two children; Ed. Durand, wife and two children, and Mrs. Arthur Durand and four children, of this city; C. B. Fountaine, wife and two children, and Alfonsa and A. Fountaine, of Junction City. Arthur Durand and others from the city and county left for Edmonton about three weeks ago, going out for the purpose of looking over the country with a view of taking up land, in response to inducements held out by T. O. Currie, the Canadian representative here. All seem well



REAPING WHEAT IN WESTERN CANADA

pleased with the country and its climate, and Arthur sent for his family and friends to come at once. He writes that cattle are able to get their own living the year round, need little if any shelter, and grow fat even in the winter. He had been at work in the paper mills here for the past few years, impairing his health to some degree, and he believes the pure air of Western Canada will give him new life. The friends of these people, while regretting their departure, trust they may find their new home a pleasant one.—Stevens' Point (Wis.) Gazette.

1116 Hallet Avenue, Braddock, Pa.,
November 29th, 1898.

M. V. McInnes, Esq., Room 1, Merrill Block,
Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Sir: Last spring I received from you a pamphlet in the Bohemian language, giving information about Western Canada, and after a while, with my friend, Mr. Andrew Takobern, started on a trip through the wonderful country.

On July 6th last we started from Detroit by the C. P. R. and sped away to Winnipeg, passing through Ontario to Manitoba. We were astonished on our way through Manitoba, and I could not believe my own eyes at the sight we saw. Immense fields of wheat and everything ripe and grand. We arrived at Winnipeg in due time and saw with amazement the surrounding country. The land is rich and good.

Winnipeg is a fine, healthy town. The cattle and Canadian horses we saw there are good, strong and large, and the very best we ever saw anywhere. There are about ten Bohemian families living in the city, the men mostly employed on the railroad.

From Winnipeg we proceeded on July 10th, by the Manitoba and Northwestern Railroad, to Yorktown in Assiniboia. This rising town has been settled for the past five years, and is already a large market centre, surrounded by immense and productive farms, and always filled with farmers with strong and serviceable teams. The market day is Saturday, when the town is over-run with farming people of all kinds with farm products, vegetables and varieties of various sorts for sale.

Horses and cattle and sheep are there in abundance, and any one with good judgment can purchase stock and the products of the farm for fair prices. This is the best place we found for Bohemian families to settle, and if they want to do a good and profitable business, Yorkton is the place for them to go.

Should any one want further information from me on these points, or as to any one particular place, I shall be glad to give it on request.

All the land of Western Canada, so far as I saw, is A. I. The wheat is magnificent. I saw 1,000 acres of wheat on one plot and it was full, healthy, and first-class. The cows, pigs, and sheep are all of the very best, and Bohemian families can make no mistake by settling in Northeastern Assiniboia.

We visited the town of Ebenezer, colonized by Germans, and about 10 years old. It lies a few miles north of Yorkton, and is inhabited by wideawake and good farming people, all well-to-do and able to buy. A great many well-constructed farming implements are sold in this place. In one store alone 40 mowing machines of the latest design were sold this season.

There are a good many Russian and Polish people scattered about this locality, and they would like to have a compatriot or a Bohemian business man establish himself in this district. I believe he would do well. At Yorkton there are three large hotels in full activity and succeeding well. Then there are about to build a railroad to run far down into the prairie land. So there is prosperity everywhere and good times all round.

Yours respectfully,
John Jednick.

Edmonton, Alberta; N. W. T., Nov. 29th, 1898.
Mr. Rollo.

Dear Sir: Before leaving Boise City you requested me to send you a few of my impressions of Alberta, or whatever parts of it I may visit.

I came right on to Edmonton, and what I have to say will be principally about that district.

I have been in this part of the Northwest for about three weeks, and I must say that I have to confess that I have seen nothing to the disadvantage of intending settlers; indeed it is

the opposite; everything seems to be to the advantage of those who would like to make homes for themselves in this country. I will try to give you a faithful sketch of what I have seen since I came here. I will not paint it in false colors, but will give it to you just as I have seen it.

Imagine yourself going across the Snake River plains, and that all the burnt spots and all the bare spots were prairie; and the parts covered with sage brush were instead all covered with large patches of timber, and with here and there patches of brush. In some parts of the country prairie lands predominate, in other parts brush land, and in others, again, timber. Imagine all the washes which run through the sage brush turned into small running streams and some pretty good sized creeks, and you will have a pretty fair description, topographically, of the Edmonton district.

There are several kinds of timber in this country, but poplar (Idahoans would call it cottonwood, pure and simple) is by a long way the most plentiful. One will also see scattered among the poplar, small, and sometimes good-sized, patches of spruce, fir and tamarac. There is one good thing in this country, and that is, there are all the logs that farmers may require to build their homes, stables, outhouses, etc., and I must say that any of the farmers' houses in which I have been are all very snug and comfortable. Regarding the kind of land in this country, it may be said to be of three classes of qualities. Take the prairie first—it is not counted so good as either the brush or timber lands upon which to grow crops. That being the case, it is scarcely ever "broke," but is left in its primitive state, from which the farmers cut all the hay they want. Few farmers seed down tame hay, as there is always a sure crop of wild hay, an oceans of it at that.

Next we will take the "brush land." It is so-called from its being covered, more or less thickly, with rose bushes, saskatoon bushes, raspberry, and some other bushes. This land, I understand, grows good grain. I have seen some fine looking grain on what was once brush land. It is somewhat harder to break than the open prairie, but when once broken there is no trouble with it afterwards; the roots of the brush intertwine and run all through the sod and make it

somewhat hard to break. Next there is the "timber land." This is very fine land, many settlers counting this the best land they have, but I have yet to see the farm of one hundred and sixty acres that does not contain some of all three. The following is, I understand, the way timber land is generally cleared of timber, viz.: Plow a "fire-break" all round the piece of timber you intend to clear off; then (in the fall is the best time) set fire to the underbrush, burning the whole of the timber, if you can. In two years time what remains will have rotted (roots, too). Then it can be gathered and burned; then the land is ready for the plow. Of course, lots of farmers don't bother with burning, but, instead, pile right into the grubbing. A grubbing hoe is just as handy in this country as it is in Idaho.

To show how this country is settling up. Just think of eleven new threshing machines having been brought into the Edmonton district this fall and added to those already here. There are, I am told, just two or three too many. But then, you know the old adage, "Many hands make light," and what is in this case better still, quick work.

Bare ground and beautiful roads are making the farmers get a hustle on themselves, so far as bringing their grain into town is concerned, and I can tell you it is a sight for sore eyes to see the "Alfalfa men" (Boise City vernacular) coming into Edmonton in long strings, with their wagons loaded down with grain. And just as soon as they get to town they are pounced upon by the grain buyers. Dozens of wagons come in with grain every day, and I can tell you it is a busy scene. There was, this year, the largest area sowed to grain in the history of the Edmonton district, oats predominating to a large extent. I may state that all the grain being shipped from here is being taken to the Kootenay country, this being the nearest mixed farming point where it can get farm produce in large quantities. I am told by one of the grain buyers that wheat is being grown in much larger areas each year in proportion to oats. To-day, according to the said buyer, was a red letter day, so far as the amount of grain brought into town was concerned, fifteen thousand bushels being a fair estimate. (Remember my statement about roads.) My informant also

informed me that the farmers were only just beginning to move their grain. Numbers of farmers are making reports of the amount of grain they raised per acre. The following is, as near as I can hear, a fair average: Wheat, 30 to 35 bushels per acre, although, at the same time, I can hear now and then a farmer saying he raised 60 to 70 bushels to the acre, and it may be so, but I think what I mentioned as a fair average is nearer the mark. Oats this year run about 75 to 80 bushels to the acre as an average. Barley, 40 to 50. One farmer told me he sowed fourteen acres of oats, intending to cut it for "green feed," but not being able to cut it green, he just let it go until ripe; then cut it and threshed—result, 970 bushels (the fourteen acres was measured land), being 69 2-7 bushels per acre. Don't you think that that is pretty good for "green feed?" Another farmer told me that he sowed oats on twelve acres (also measured land), and the yield was 1,400 bushels, or 117 bushels to the acre. That is an immense yield, and I am thinking the Boise Valley farmers would be satisfied with half of that. Of course, the farmer said he grew that 117 bushels to the acre on a "tip-top piece of land."

Regarding hay. Wild hay runs from one ton to one and a half tons to the acre. Few farmers go to the trouble and expense of seeding down tame hay, because, as I have already stated, there is an abundance of the natural article. Before I forget, I may tell you that all the farmers prefer a couple or so feet of snow on the ground. In the first place, they can haul larger loads of grain to town on sleighs than they can on wagons, and in the second place, when the snow melts in the spring it moistens the land good, to give an early start to crops in the case of no rain coming. Snow, it would seem, is a good thing in this country; strange, yet true. Sweet corn grows in this country, and when that is the case, I don't see why flint, dent and other common field corn would not grow just as well. I think people are just beginning to find out what they can grow in this country.

Root crops yield splendidly, 600 bushels of potatoes to the acre being quite common. Carrots give immense returns; beets also grow well. Turnips are another splendid crop. Pumpkins and squash also grow very fine.

Three wagons came into town to-day loaded down with hogs, and on asking a "city feller" where they were going, he said to the bacon manufactory. Rather a good name for a pork-packing establishment.

I did not know there were any of these concerns here, but the same city gent told me there were two, and I understand they can "fix" all the hogs farmers can bring to them. Most of the bacon cured here (over and above what is used for home consumption) is shipped to Kootenay. Farmers receive for hogs, on foot, 4 cents per pound; dressed, 6 to 6½ cents per lb. Here is the present market list of some of the farm produce:

Beef (3 years old) steers, \$30 to \$40. Sometime ago there were several cattle buyers through this part of the country, and they are giving \$40 to \$45 for three-year-old steers.

Mutton (full grown).

Pork, as per statement above. Chickens, \$3 per dozen. Turkeys, geese and ducks, none on the market, too scarce. I think a chicken ranch would pay well here. Eggs, 35 cents per dozen. Potatoes, 25 cents per bushel. Wheat, 43 to 47 cents. Oats, 20 to 24 cents. Barley, 35 cents. All garden truck scarce.

Regarding fruit. One sees a total absence of orchards. Fruit trees, apples, pears and plums, have been tried, but they have not been a success. They grow all right for the first two years after planting, then die. But the larger fruits are never missed, as there is a suberabundance of various varieties of small fruits, strawberries, raspberries, gooseberries, blackberries, currants (both black and red) and saskatoons; also blueberries (same as huckleberries.) All these small fruits grow wild, and so people don't have to cultivate them, but when any of them are cultivated they yield immensely.

I would advise intending settlers to bring any horses and cows they may have with them, as these "critters" are rather high priced. Wagons and all kinds of machinery are as cheap as one can get them anywhere.

In Edmonton, where I board and room, I pay \$3.50 a week, and I get just as good as I could get in Boise City for \$5 per week.

I find the Government Agent here a very obliging gentleman (Mr. Sutter), and willing to help intending settlers in every way that lies in his power.

By the way, I should say that this would be a poor country to run sheep in, so far as running them out on the range in bands goes. I have already mentioned rose bush, and as a matter of course that isn't very good for the wool. But a few head, say from twenty to two hundred, could be kept on a farm.

When coming through Calgary on the train I noticed that that part of Alberta would suit admirably for sheep, especially from Calgary west towards the mountains.

I think I will close by saying that if I take up a farm, the Edmonton District will be the choice of

Your old friend,

(Signed.) William Stewart,
Late of Boise Valley, Idaho.

To Alfred S. Rollo, Canadian Government Agent,
Boise City, Idaho, U. S. A.

(Translation.)

Immigration Commissioner.

Honored Sir: In complete ignorance of the English language, we would ask you to allow us to have the honor to lay before you a report of the impressions received by us during our visit to the Northwest, in the German language.

We left home, in the south of Russia, on the 22nd of April, 1898, and reached Winnipeg on the 17th of May. We did not stay in Winnipeg, but left on the 18th of May for the west, in order to see the lands for homesteading. Our first point was Saskatoon, where we found a new Mennonite settlement, both at Rosthern and Hague. We were treated very kindly on arrival, and were pleased to see that this district is very suitable for our farming people, who are coming from South Russia. The nature of the ground is black soil, with heavy clay sub-soil, and, therefore, very fertile. The grass grows very close, and the growth is wonderfully nutritious, which was to be seen by the fat cattle in the neighborhood. The newly-planted wheat seemed in splendid condition, and prom-

ises a rich crop. Altogether the whole district there is very encouraging and hopeful to us. It is a nice prairie, covered with beautiful grass, and dotted here and there with little poplar forests, which give the whole a very romantic appearance. The settlers whom we visited look forward to a very happy and contented future, and thank God that He had laid the way open for them to erect their homes on this part of the earth. Altogether very much pleased with the good qualities of this land, and thoroughly convinced that there is room for many thousands who may yet come to make their living from farming and cattle raising, we returned on the 28th of May to Manitoba, in order to see something of this place, and to learn a lot from our many friends about the condition of Canada. As far as we may have been able to learn during our sojourn here, we are able to see that most of our Mennonite brethren have made tremendous progress since their immigration into this country. Many of them occupy farms similar to those occupied by the nobility of Europe, with the only difference that they have not nearly so many expenditures or taxes to pay, and they are very happy with their comfort and honorable condition. This happy condition has been reached by our friends owing to their unsparing energy and the fertility of the ground, and the clever management of the Canadian Government; at least, such was the impression given to us by our brother farmers here.

We intend to start on our return journey to our old homes in South Russia as soon as we have completed a few more of our visits of inspection, in order that we may lay before the many inquiring families there the advantages to be obtained in Canada, although, by the advice of our friends here, we have delayed starting until we have seen the yearly Industrial Exhibition in Winnipeg, which commences on the 11th of July, so that we may see more of the products of this country there than we have been enabled to see so far, and then we will commence our return journey.

We are very thankful to learn that the Mennonites in Canada are allowed to follow their beliefs without hindrance, and that according to the order-in-council, which cannot be changed, they are free from any and every military service.

A copy of this law was handed to us by our friend, Mr. Klaus Peters, in the original English language, which we are taking with us to Russia, with a literal translation, in order that we may lay it and its privileges before our brethren.

Your obedient servants,
(Signed.)

Peter Krahn,
Peter Braun,
Delegates.

Marlais Farm, Dugald.
Winnipeg, Manitoba, March 7th, 1893.

Dear Sir: I am very sorry that my son and I were from home when Mr. Hislop drove out here at your request, to bring us in to have an interview with Mr. Davies, of Wales, but still we hope that my daughter was able to give all the information desired instead.

I think that you requested me a short time ago to give you an account of our proceedings since our arrival in this country, and therefore, in fulfillment of my promise, I write this letter, a copy of which I am also sending to Mr. Davies.

We left the old country just eighteen months ago, and bought this farm of 160 acres situated about twelve miles from Winnipeg, for which we gave \$1,400.

To procure suitable stock to start with we purchased ten cows and four horses, besides the required implements. Last year we had 50 acres under cultivation, and being our first year, it turned out very successfully, and we had a yield of 600 bushels of wheat, 500 bushels of oats, and 450 bushels of barley. This total, together with our dairy, pigs, and other produce, brought an income of about \$1,400.

Since then we have more than doubled the number of our stock, being that we now have 25 head of cattle, besides pigs and poultry, and our working power consists of five horses and a yoke of oxen, and we have felt so encouraged by our last year's success and prospects for the future, that we have bought an adjoining farm, so that we now own 320 acres of land. Therefore, we expect to have considerable more land under crop next year, and when both farms are broken up,

we expect to have about 200 acres for grain and cultivation and about 120 acres for hay and pasture.

We have also built additional buildings, and the present value of our land, buildings, stock, crop and implements is about \$7,500 dollars, equal to £1,500.

Manitoba is undoubtedly a country with a great future, and it has one of the healthiest climates in the world, and we believe that any man with courage and industry can do well here, particularly those with small capital to start with, as they can have the advantage of buying improved farms in the neighborhood of Winnipeg, or some other towns, where they can obtain a ready market for their produce.

We would like to impress upon intending settlers not to be daunted with trifling obstacles, but to come here with a determination to push forward and overcome the small difficulties with which new settlers have invariably to contend.

Now, I think I have said all, and if you should publish this, or use it to promote the interests of immigration, will you kindly emphasize that this information is given at your own special request.

I remain,
Yours very sincerely,
(Signed.) David Jones.J
W. F. McCreary, Esq., Commissioner of Immigration,
Winnipeg.

L. N. JOANISE AND C. P. ARCHAMBAULT TELL OF ITS GREAT FERTILITY.

In July last Louis N. Joanise, of Garfield avenue, this city, and C. P. Archambault, of West Superior, Wis., made application to J. H. M. Parker, Canadian Government Agent of this city, for lands in the Canadian Northwest. Mr. Parker sent them both to Alberta, where they spent the summer, and have now returned for their families.

Mr. Joanise spent the summer in Southern Alberta, and reports it to be the best stock-raising country he ever saw. He states that he saw thousands of head of fat cattle that live on the nutritious grasses of the prairie, without any shelter other

than the trees and valleys. As to the climate, Mr. Joanise says it is so healthy that he is anxious to get there as soon as possible with his family, as one of his daughters is an invalid, and his only hope for her recovery is the bright and healthy atmosphere of Alberta. He says the coldest weather is nearly over, as when he left Macleod a few days ago a lively chinook or Pacific wind was blowing, which swept the ground of snow. He leaves here in March with his large family to settle in Alberta, where he advises all his friends to go.

Mr. Archambault visited Northern Alberta from Calgary to Edmonton, and says that he is more than satisfied with his trip. He has seen the largest yields of grain and roots he ever saw, and states that the lands the Canadian Government is giving away to settlers beats anything in the world for fertility and easy cultivation. He thinks the secret of the rapid growth and large crops is due to the long sunny days in summer, as in Edmonton they have twenty hours a day of sunshine in the summer. There is an abundance of this fertile land yet unsettled, and Mr. Archambault will try to induce some of his friends to accompany him back to Alberta in the spring, when he will take a farm for himself, being convinced that he can make far more than a good living for himself and his family.

—Duluth Evening Herald, Dec. 25, 1897.

Barnesville, Minn., April 12th, 1898.

Benjamin Davies, Esq., St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: I have just returned from Alberta, and examined the land particularly along Battle river. In Alberta, about forty miles south of Edmonton, I found land that I believe to be as good as any land that ever lay out doors. The soil is a dark loam and very heavy and rich. It's well watered. Water can be obtained at a depth of from 12 to 40 feet below the surface. The water is very soft, nearly as soft as rain-water. The land is very slightly rolling, just enough to give it good drainage. It is strictly prairie land, but there is plenty of timber there on each farm. It is possible to break up a farm of twenty or thirty acres without interfering with the timber land; it is very easy to clear the larger part of each farm, leaving enough timber for family use. This country is in no

sense a timber country. It is, strictly speaking, prairie land, with here and there a small bunch of timber. The river is full of fish, and game has its home there. There are plenty of railroad facilities, and as soon as the country is settled up, schools and churches will be built. There is any quantity of land near Battle River that can be taken for homesteads. I have friends living there. Last year one of my friends harvested forty-eight bushels of wheat per acre, for which he received 85c. per bushel. While I was up there he sold three head of cattle for \$92. I consider this is the best farming land that I have ever seen and it cannot be surpassed for grazing purposes. I am informed that they never have any hard thunder or rain storms, but there is plenty of rain during the season to water the crops. I have taken up a homestead, and several of my friends are expecting to take up homesteads there also. There is a creamery in the vicinity of my farm.

You are authorized to use this letter as you may see proper. Mr. Charles S. Marden, of Barnesville, Minn., sub-agent, working under Mr. Benjamin Davies, Canadian Government Emigration Agent, of St. Paul, induced me to go to this country.

(Signed.)

Ernest Frankhamel,
Barnesville, Minn.

Residing on Sec. 22, Town of Atherton, Wilkin Co., Minn.

Parker's Prairie, Minn., April 25th, 1898.

Benjamin Davies, Esq., Canadian Government Agent,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: Having just returned from my trip through the N. W. T., Alberta being my objective point, I shall give you only a brief report at this time, as I was too early to give a full and correct statement of the country. My first stop off of any account, in going into the country, was at Red Deer, Alberta. I found there a thriving little village, with good surrounding country, for either farming or stock ranching. Farmers here seemed to be doing well. I called on several. A Mr. R. McDuffie, of this place (Red Deer), informed me that ten years ago he arrived from the east with \$300 (with wife and little daughter), and now would not take \$3,000 for

his farm, having also a little in the bank. Red Deer seemed to be quite a favorite spot, as many new people were coming in every day. I might say from here, south as far as the railway runs, to Edmonton, the country is of a similar nature. Good soil, plenty of hay, water and fuel. At and about Edmonton coal is delivered at from 75c. to \$2.00 per ton, it being all through the ground, many farmers having a coal mine within a few rods of the house. The timber is soft wood. I cannot see where anyone would make a mistake, if they are looking for a chance to make a future home in a new country, by going to this locality. I hope to make another trip to this country during September and may locate, as I have several parties already who would like to go and have me go with them, having had the advantage of having been on the ground. The railroads will soon be extended north into the Peace River country, where some very fertile country as well as gold mining is now in progress. This, it seems to me, ought to make the Alberta district a coming country, with the gold fields of the Kootenay on the south and Peace River and Alaska on the north, giving an open market for all that can be raised at your very door.

Kindly accept my thanks for your efforts in my behalf, and hoping that I may be of some service to you in your efforts.

I am, Yours very truly,
(Signed.) E. P. Nelson.

YORKTON SUITED HIM ADMIRABLY.

St. Paul, Minn., April 14th, 1898.

Mr. Davies.

Dear Sir: I am just home from the N. W., and am more than pleased with my trip. First, because of what I found there, and second, because of the way we were entertained on the way. We did not go as far as Edmonton. I found, by making inquiries at Winnipeg, that it was not possible to get land at Edmonton nearer than thirty miles, all land suitable for mixed farming within that radius being taken up. This made us change our plans, though we had already obtained passes (endorsed to stop off) through to the jumping-off place.

We then had a talk with Mr. Crearer, and decided to go with him to Yorkton first, and so far as we are concerned there is no use going any further. We found land admirably suited for mixed farming, and we were used royally by the Board of Trade at Yorkton, who are live business men, not afraid of trouble or expense to satisfy homeseekers and help them to find just what they want. All the farmers that we visited are well satisfied and have cause to be so.

I wish to thank you and any one that has helped me so kindly in this matter.

Yours respectfully,
(Signed.) Thomas Kirkland

West Duluth, Minn., May 24th, 1898.
Mr. N. Campbell, Canadian Government Agent,
Crookston, Minn.

Dear Sir: I have just returned from a trip looking after homestead lands in and about the Dauphin district, Manitoba, and, after comparing the lands I saw there with those in Crookston Land District, Minnesota, U. S. A., I am frank to say that those in Manitoba I find far superior to those in the United States, and the treatment I received and the courtesies extended by the Government agents in Manitoba is so far ahead of those in the U. S. that there can hardly be any comparison. I believe that any person desiring homestead lands could do no better than to settle in Manitoba. I can also recommend in particular the lands in the Swan River country as exceptionally fine agricultural lands, and it will certainly pay any homeseeker to examine those lands.

Very respectfully yours,
(Signed.) D. B. McDonald.

Winnipeg, April 12th, 1898.
Mr. W. F. McCreary, Commissioner of Immigration.

Dear Sir: To you personally, and to your staff collectively, I tender my sincere thanks for the great kindness shown-my colleagues and myself on our arrival in Winnipeg, as delegates from Mounds View, Minn., sent here for the purpose of looking over the N. W. T. of Canada. Land suitable for

mixed farming being our principal object of search. I feel in duty bound to give a brief account of our trip and the result of our investigation.

We left St. Paul, March 30th, arrived at Winnipeg on the 31st. We were treated with every consideration by the Immigration Officials; were supplied with all the available information, and then we decided to look over the Yorkton district first. We left Winnipeg April 3rd, at 3 a. m. Monday, April 4th, the Board of Trade of Yorkton put in an appearance with teams and proved that they were live business men, who were ready to prove the desirable quality of their locality, by showing us actual facts. The end desired by them was so far reached in my case that I found what I was looking for, and am now on my way home to ship my effects to my new found home. The farmers in the Yorkton district are, as a whole, in very comfortable circumstances, and have become so in most cases in nine years or less, which speaks volumes.

Again thanking you, I am, Sir,

Yours respectfully,

(Signed.)

Thomas Kirkland.

Winnipeg, 21st May, 1898.

I have visited this country as a delegate from residents of Holingsford, Stearns Co., Minnesota, and have just returned from a visit to the Edmonton and Wetaskiwin districts.

I found all the representations made to me by the Canadian agents fully warranted by the conditions of the country.

I was very well treated by the Government officials, who showed me a very fine district of country east of Wetaskiwin, near Beaver Lake.

No better land can be found anywhere, it is a black loam, with clay sub-soil, no gravel or stones. Hay is in abundance, and clumps of poplar give the country a park-like appearance. The water is of fine quality and got at from 10 to 40 feet. The settlers, many of whom came in poor, are now prosperous and contented, and very willing to assist newcomers. All nationalities are here—Americans, Scandinavians and Canadians.

Good homestead lands can be got in this district 21 miles

east of Wetaskiwin. There is a fine Government creamery at that town, which is a great advantage to the settlers.

There is no personal tax of any kind, and only a small road tax of one day's work and \$2 in cash and a school tax of about \$1.25. I can fully recommend this district for any who are seeking homes for themselves in Canada.

I think very highly of Edmonton, and believe it will be the distributing point for the Northwest and the country around it is very fine. The report which came to the Farmers' Alliance of Minnesota regarding destitution among American farmers who have settled in the Northwest, I believe is false.

(Signed.)

A. C. Barrett.

St. Paul, Minn., May 21st, 1898.

Benjamin Davies, St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: I have to thank you for your kindness in arranging for a trip to Alberta.

It is a great country. I made my first stop at Red Deer. I made the acquaintance there of a farmer of the name of Crookshank, and stayed at his place. After being two days with him, and visiting around among the neighbors, and seeing the country with him, I thought the best plan to do was to let him give his opinion of the country. He is a straight, sensible, shrewd old Scotchman, and when we were taking a smoke, and having a talk together, the night before I left, I asked his opinion of the country. "Well," he said, "I will give you what I have made of it myself. You have been around and seen that I am fixed up on an average with my neighbors. I am fifty-eight years of age, and came to this country five years ago with nothing but a wife and some children, and have made more in these five years than I did all the rest of my life put together. I have half a section of fat Alberta land, with 90 acres of it broken. I have 20 cows, 10 on the ranch and 10 for the dairy, with some young stock. I have 25 head of horses, 5 for work and the rest on the ranch. The most of them are 3 years old, and I could get from \$50 to \$75 for each. You saw the two harvesters, the drills and other tools that are about, and they are clear, and but one payment to make on the land."

"What about these early frosts?" I asked.

"We had a bad frost the second year after I came, but we have never been troubled since, and we don't think much of that now. In time it will be winter wheat here, cut before danger of frost. I will let you see to-morrow as fine a patch of winter wheat as you could see anywhere."

- I then asked him about the market, and what he received for his wheat in Red Deer last fall.

"All the way from 40 to 60 cents per bushel. It is a tough wheat market is Red Deer. There are fifteen different grades of wheat in Red Deer, and that is drawing it a little too fine. But we don't run very much to wheat. We have as good a market for oats and barley as you have, and can raise double the amount to the acre that you can. And there is your creamery. I see by the paper that we got as much for our butter as they did in Iowa, and if you consider the price of land there and here, you can see what that means. This is the way to 'put it.' And certainly he had reasons to be satisfied with himself.

People riding through the country on the cars, and seeing the little log houses and straw sheds, are very apt to mistake the condition and circumstances of the settlers in a new country. They were all poor men when they went on to the land, and had to do with these little log houses and sheds, and are quite right to stick to them until they are able to put up better, and that is what they are beginning to think of now. I listened to a very interesting discussion between Mr. Crookshank and his neighbor on the comparative merits of lumber and brick as to the material for their next houses, and with brick at Red Deer at \$6.00 a 1,000, and lumber at \$12 and \$15 a 1,000 feet, I think brick had the best of it.

There is one thing needed very much around Red Deer, and that is a grist mill. Flour at \$3.50 a 100, and wheat 50 cents a bushel is a little too much of a rake-off. The mills buy their wheat at export price and sell their flour at the import price, and the mills at Edmonton are just whooping it up night and day. The farmers complain a good deal over it, and if I had money, I would not be afraid to put in one myself. If an experienced man with a little money would start

to put up a mill in the vicinity of Red Deer, I have not the least doubt that the farmers of there and the vicinity would help him all they could.

The progress of Northern Alberta is great beyond a doubt. From the crowds going in this summer I would say that it is past the stage of advertising, and can now speak for itself.

Yours very truly,

(Signed.)

John Stewart,
Box 87, Wadena, Minn.

Yorkton, Assa., June 5, 1898.

Sir: We arrived about a week ago, and travelled around visiting the districts containing the Government lands, and find it fully as represented. There is the finest kind of land in this district for farming or ranching that can be found anywhere. There is considerable timber for building, firing and fencing. The water cannot be beaten anywhere. There is very fine cattle here, of the Shorthorn type, which will be shortly fit to ship. The farmers have about just got through sowing the last of their oats, which appears to us to be rather late, but will come an excellent crop. The people here are not stuck up; they are very friendly. We visited Lake Sheho, which is a fine place for stock farming. We are sorry we did not know of it a good many years ago, for we have fooled our time away in the woods of Northern Minnesota. This is considerable of a rising town, built up in a substantial way with good stone foundations. We intend taking up homesteads here, while Mr. McKinley says, if he had the old woman here he would never go back to Northern Minnesota. Farm machinery, wagons, and horses are the same as in Minnesota. There are enough farms here for all the boys in Minnesota.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed.)

A. Starr,
A. C. Coulter,
Of New York Mills, Minnesota, U. S. A.

Winnipeg, 9th June, 1898.

We, the undersigned, from New York Mills, Minnesota, have returned from a visit to the Yorkton District. We found it favorable for mixed farming, principally stock, which are in fine condition. They are Shorthorns of good type, and steers rising 3 years sell at \$50 cash. The soil is a black loam, with a very rich gray sub-soil. First-class water from gravel is got at a depth of 15 to 20 feet. The wild grasses are plentiful and make good feed for cattle, and hay is in abundance. There is a government creamery at Yorkton, where they make butter and ship the proceeds to China and Japan, with satisfactory results to the farmers. We found all the farmers contented and prospering, and they are a fine class of people, and glad to give any information to strangers. There is abundance of timber in the bluffs for fuel, if forest fires can be restrained. We have land in view about 15 miles from Yorkton on which to settle next spring, when we shall be ready to move. Settlers near Yorkton have no difficulty in caring for their horses in the winter. They turn them out loose, and they shift for themselves and come out in good condition in the spring.

(Signed.)

J. C. Coulter,
David McKinley,
A. Starr.

Winnipeg, 7th June, 1898.

I have been sent up to the Edmonton district as a delegate from Cloquet, State of Minnesota.

I visited the district northeast of Edmonton, near Fort Saskatchewan, and found the land first-class, rich soil. Plenty of wood, coal and water.

I see no reason why any man engaging here in mixed farming should not do well. The yield of grain there last year was very large—about 40 to 50 bushels of wheat and 100 to 110 bushels of oats to the acre.

The stock is splendid, and I think it is as good a country

as can be for stock raising. One man told me he sold twelve head of 3-year-old steers for \$47.50 a piece.

I then visited the Dried Meat district, southeast of Wetaskiwin, and found this just as good a country, and the settlers are prosperous and happy and most obliging in giving information and assistance to immigrants.

I have decided to secure a farm in this country as soon as I can, for I did not meet a single farmer who was not content and prospering. Most of these same men went in there with very little.

I saw some fine homestead land some 25 to 30 miles from Wetaskiwin, and the farmers near that town bring in their milk to the Government creamery and get the skim milk back to feed to their pigs and calves, and realize about 16 cents cash for their butter.

I have visited the Swan River district, 113 miles beyond Dauphin, and find it a large area of well-timbered, well-watered country. Plenty of hay can be got, and the district is well adapted for mixed farming.

The soil is good and sharp, about 18 inches deep. On some of the ridges the soil is somewhat sandy and easy to be worked. Wild hops and wild peas grow in abundance. From five to ten teams are going in every day and the country is settling up fast.

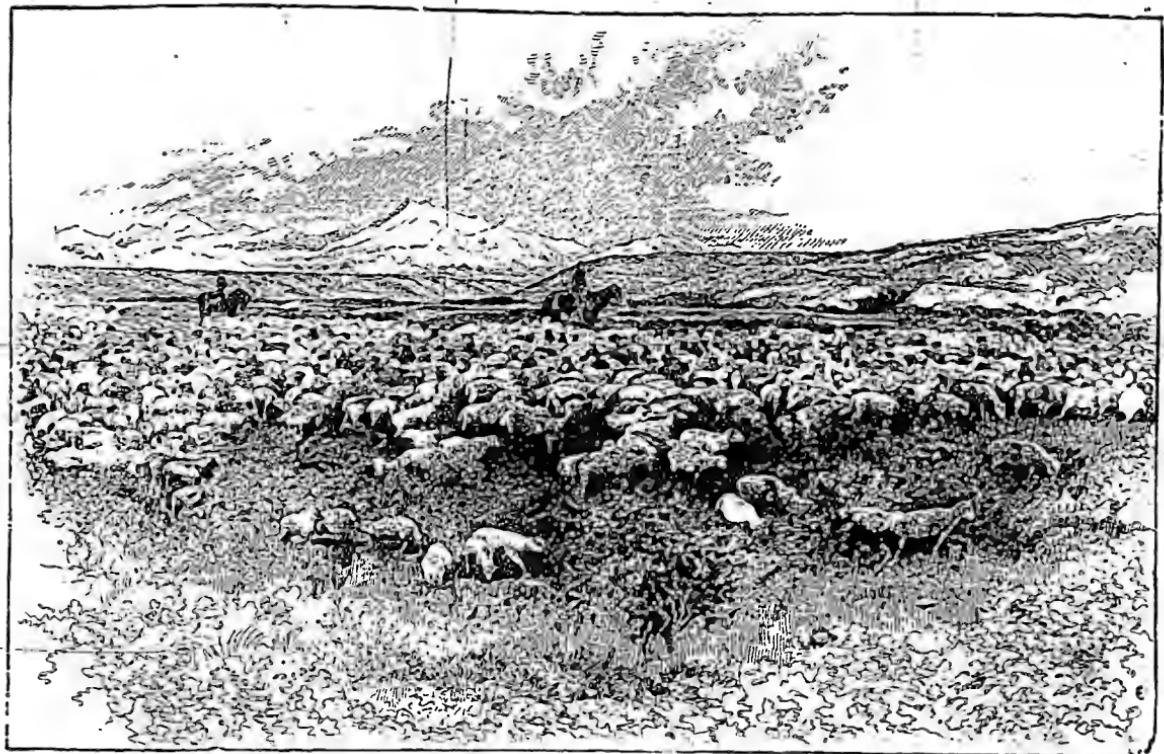
I am much pleased with the district and intend to make it my home, and will bring in over 30 friends to settle with me.

I am sure this district will grow better wheat than the Dauphin country, and will in a short time surpass it.

(Signed.) F. M. Ford,
Delegate from Cloquet, Minnesota.

Edmonton, Alberta, Nov. 25th, 1898.

We, the undersigned, delegates from Barnesville, Clay Co., Minn., desiring to give our honest opinion concerning the country, we will say we are pleased. It is far ahead of what we expected. We find the climate to be warmer than we expected. As for the crops, we have never seen anything that can compete with them. We have lived in Minnesota, and



SHEEP RANCHING IN WESTERN CANADA

have farmed some of what they count the best land in the Red River Valley, for ten years, and have done very well in that part of the country and have farms there at present clear of all encumbrance, but believe this country is so much better that we have bought from the C. P. R. one section of land northeast of Edmonton in the Beaver Hill district. We have travelled through that part of the country and have seen the grain in the granaries and the amount of land it was taken off, and find that they have grown so much as 50 bushels and over to the acre, and they say that this has not been a good year, and very little, if any, of the grain has been touched by frost. Hay seems to be plentiful, and if you wish to put up a log building you can get the logs within a few miles. Coal at the mines for 75 cents per ton, or you can dig it yourself. Nearly all kinds of garden truck can be grown in abundance. We find everything that can be grown to be in good demand. The farmers tell us they can get four and a half, live weight, per hundred for hogs, and 3-year-old steers from \$50 to \$60 per head, providing they are good.

We will move into this part of the country next summer. All the people in this part of the country seem to be satisfied, and we do not see any reason why they should not be so. Any one wishing to refer to us will get an answer by addressing C. E. Hughes, or A. Hughes, Barnesville, Clay County, Minn., any time between this and the first of June.

(Signed:-)

C. E. Hughes,

A. Hughes.

Winnipeg, Man., 8th December, 1898.

William F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Sir: We left here on the 25th of last month for the Edmonton country, to report upon it to our friends. We visited St. Albert and the settlements adjacent to it. We met a number of farmers there, some of them from our own region in Minnesota, and had an excellent opportunity of examining the farms of men who have already established themselves in comfortable homes. In all our experience we have never

seen a country to equal the Edmonton region, nor any country where the conveniences of life are so close together, with a climate milder than Minnesota and more equable. Without exception, the farmers we met were doing well, and were well satisfied. Fuel, in the shape of wood and coal, is plentiful; good water is found throughout; and the soil beats anything we ever beheld. The markets, too, owing to the nearness of the country to the mining regions, are excellent. We saw hogs, live weight, sold at \$1.50 per 100 lbs., and butter at 20c. a lb. Oats were bringing 25c. a bushel, and 3-year-old steers as high as \$44. The prices could not be obtained in our own country in Minnesota to-day. We also examined the district around Fort Saskatchewan, and liked it well. In fact, the whole country is first-class in every respect. We were so satisfied that one of our number bought a farm before leaving, and will return to it in the spring. Another rented a farm and will go back to it next month. We are all returning, and will make known to our friends before leaving Minnesota, the richness and resources of the Edmonton country.

(Signed.)

John Molowney, Chokio, Stevens Co., Minnesota.
E. L. Baldwin, Chokio, Stevens Co., Minnesota.
Olaf Weelsin, Donnelly, Stevens Co., Minnesota.

South Stillwater, Minn., Aug. 5th, 1898.

Benjamin Davies, Esq., St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: The following is a short report of our travels in the Canadian Northwest and what we have seen.

At Brandon we spent a very pleasant day at the fair. The exhibits were most creditable and in some instances superior to anything we have ever seen; in fact, everything gave evidence of thrift and prosperity.

Our next stop was at Alameda, and we were driven through the Moose Mountain district, where we interviewed a number of farmers, and without exception their assurance was that it was the right place to settle. Their crops looked well and their stock cannot be beaten, and they are a fine industrious class of people, every one contented and happy, and there

are some advantages there not always to be met with on the prairie—good water, coal being cheap and plentiful, wood to be had for the hauling and good water by digging from 12 to 20 feet. So, taking all things into consideration, we decided with our choice and left the open prairie lands for those who are harder to please.

Yours respectfully,
(Signed.) Alex. Cameron.

Stanton, Goodhue County, Minn,
November 22nd, 1898.
Benjamin Davies, Esq., Canadian Government Agent,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: Having returned from our prospecting tour through Western Canada, where we were sent as a delegation in the interest of a large number of farmers who are interested in the free government lands of the great Canadian West, to where there will be an unprecedented rush in the spring. After leaving Winnipeg, which is a beautiful city of between 40,000 and 50,000, we went to Regina, which is a thriving town of 3,000. Here we talked with a number of farmers who have lived there for a number of years and are perfectly satisfied with their choice and are doing well. Here we saw cattle which had never had anything but grass, and were what we consider good stock.

Calgary being our next stop, which place is a fine city, with magnificent brown stone buildings, the stone coming from quarries near the city. This place being headquarters for one of the finest ranching districts in the world, here we had the pleasure of seeing a herd of the finest cattle we have ever seen, which were brought in for shipment east. After looking into things generally in the interest of ranching, we went 200 miles north to Edmonton, which is in the finest mixed farming district in the world. Edmonton has five or six commission merchants, who do a great business exporting produce to the Crow's Nest Pass and the Kootenay mines, where they bring a high price, giving the farmers an excellent market for all they

raise. We drove from Edmonton to the Clover Bar district, where we found all farmers prosperous. Here we remained over night with Mr. A. Simons, who came here five years ago without a dollar, and to-day he has a fine farm he refuses \$3,000 for, and says any man who is willing to work can do well here. Then we went to Beaver Lake and stopped with Mr. A. W. Hunt, who came here from Nebraska six years ago and has done so well that he could not be induced to leave the country. Here we met Mr. Neil, also of Nebraska, who has been in the country three years, and claims there is no place for the farmer like Western Canada. We were informed that good 2-year-old steers sold from \$25 to \$30, and found that the markets here for everything a farmer has to sell are as good, if not better, than in Minnesota. The wheat and oat yield here is something enormous. After looking the land over pretty well northwest and east of Edmonton, we went twenty miles south to Leduc, from where we drove fifteen miles to Conjurant Creek, where we both took homesteads, which we think are unsurpassed anywhere, there being an abundance of timber, coal, good water, and A 1 land. Coal is delivered in the towns here at from \$2 to \$2.50 a ton, lots of farmers having a mine on their premises. All over the country, wherever there are children, schools can be found, which, of course, are free, and as for churches, all Christian denominations are represented and hold services.

We have no hesitation in recommending this country to any person who wishes to secure a home for themselves and families, as any young man 18 years of age can secure 160 acres of as good land as he can wish for free, where markets are convenient, and any person willing to work cannot help but prosper.

In conclusion, we may just state that we found all the Government officials, right from St. Paul to Edmonton, to be most courteous and obliging.

(Signed.)

L. P. Emery,
F. D. Bullock,
Delegates from Goodhue County, Minnesota.

Beaver Creek, Minn., November 10th, 1898.
Mr. Davies, St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: I am the man who went out to Alberta to look over the country with intent to settle there. Had a very pleasant trip, found the people and Canadian Agents everywhere polite and agreeable. Bought a ticket to Wetaskiwin, but only went as far north as Red Deer. I and the gentleman from Milwaukee, Mr. Manvel, kept together a couple of weeks. Looked over the country east to southeast of Red Deer eight miles; then south of that about twelve to fourteen miles. I stayed with a settler named A. Cameron, helped build a log house one day, and stacked barley and oats six days. Looked about some three or four miles east. Entered the quarter in the section where I got acquainted. Number of quarter entered: N. W. of Sec. 2, Township 36, Range 27, west of the 4th Meridian, about ten miles from Innisfail, east by a little north.

The young man I helped on log house in this same section is from Southampton, England, Edward Baker by name, whose mother, I think, is coming out next spring. Mr. Manvel, who was with me, seemed well pleased with the country; was staying at Innisfail when I returned. I intend to go out there to live permanently in April next, or early in May. I think one family besides my own will go with me in the spring. I was at a fair at Innisfail, and also to one at Red Deer. Live stock all looked well. Very fine display of vegetables and grains; fine rye and winter wheat. I am much obliged for information.

Yours respectfully,
(Signed.) Charles Biggs.

THE NORTH.

O. F. Johnson Writes Concerning His Recent Trip.

(Worthington Herald, Feb. 12, 1898.)
Editor Herald: Having been requested to write in regard

to the country I have travelled through up in the British possessions, as a delegate from this district.

I left Worthington, November 4, arriving at Winnipeg, with some others, the next day. We left there for the west on the 6th. We found a fairly nice belt of country as far as Regina, especially in the vicinity of Brandon. But as we rolled on west we found vast expanses of rugged and desolute looking tracts of land, of which about the only inhabitants were wolves and jack-rabbits. As we rolled on still farther west we could see here and there large droves of horses and cattle. After stopping over in Calgary one day, we returned to Winnipeg. Then went to Alameda, a distance of 255 miles south of Winnipeg, arriving there on the 11th, where we found a tract of fine rolling prairie. The next day we were taken out towards the Moose Mountains, a distance of 35 miles from Alameda, due north. Here is an excellent looking country, near the mountains, and all farmers seem to be in a prosperous condition. They are the happiest lot of farmers I ever met. This land is being settled rapidly on account of the railroad being built through there. There are a limited number of homesteads yet to be taken, and a great deal of C. P. R. lands that can be bought at \$3 per acre.

We spent four days in this locality, thus giving it a thorough examination. Wheat seems to be the principal crop, although they raise some fine oats and barley. The average yield of wheat this year was 20 bushels per acre, which they considered a real light crop, and the quality of the grain was found to be excellent. Every bushel of wheat sold in Alameda this year has graded No. 1 hard. There is plenty of good water here at a depth of 10 to 20 feet, and an unlimited amount of fuel can be had in the mountains almost without cost, also building material, such as timber and stone.

After examining this district thoroughly, we left for home firmly convinced that the Moose Mountain district is an ideal farming country, with most all modern conveniences, where a poor man can secure a home and be independent without debt after a few years' toil. Many here in Minnesota hesitate on account of the cold climate, but, as far as I could find out, it is not half as bad as generally imagined, and a healthier cli-

mate cannot be found in the world. The weather there the past two weeks was simply elegant, compared with what I drifted into in Minnesota on Monday and Tuesday.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed.)

O. F. Johnson.

DELEGATES' REPORT.

Lake City, Minnesota, December, 22nd, 1898.

Benjamin Davies, Esq., Canadian Immigration Agent, No. 154
East Third Street, St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: As to our journey, we must say it was one of the events of our life. Nothing but uniform kindness and gentlemanly treatment, all in the most businesslike way. Beginning and ending with yourselves at St. Paul, it was simply a round pleasure trip.

We met two more delegates from Kansas, at Winnipeg, and we all travelled together, making it very agreeable for us all. We went out on the M. & N. W. R. to Yorkton, in Assiniboia, spending three days there, one of which was Sunday. Went to the Presbyterian church. The house was full and had a good sermon. All of the different denominations are there, and they seem to be in harmony, for the Episcopalians were worshipping in the Presbyterian church, until their own building would be finished. They had a very good school house and good teachers.

We spent the other two days driving through the country, being furnished a team and guide, both of which were first-class. We visited three stock ranches, two near the Beaver Hills, and one at Theodore. At each of these we saw very fine horses and cattle, especially the cattle. They were as good as I have ever seen in Scotland. We spent the night whilst we were out driving, with an enterprising young Scotchman and his hospitable sister, who gave us much information about the country. They were prosperous and love their home in Assiniboia, and would gladly communicate with and be of service to any one looking for a home in their part of the country. We had the pleasure of singing some of the old Scotch

songs so dear to the heart of a Scotchman wherever you find him. Address, George Ferlie, Theodore, Assiniboia.

Yorkton is doing the most business, for its size and conveniences, of any place we ever saw. Its future seems bright.

We then came back to Winnipeg, and went out to Brandon and spent one afternoon there visiting the Experimental Farm, being shown through the buildings, stock, grain, plants, etc., by the gentlemanly officials, and so the time flew by. Brandon is a very substantial and beautiful city. The Experimental Farm is doing a good work in a very business and methodical way, and is of great benefit to the surrounding country.

We then took the midnight train for the west, arriving at Calgary, Alberta, Saturday morning, looking over that most beautiful of cities until Monday, attending the Presbyterian church, morning and evening—a beautiful church, well-filled with well-dressed, good-looking people, good singing and very good sermons. All the different churches are well represented. Here are to be found splendid schools, both in buildings and teachers.

Calgary is in luck. Splendid building rock right there; a railroad centre, round-house, car shops, stock yards, cold storage, saw mill, good climate, beautiful location and scenery.

We then took the train on Monday morning for Edmonton, Alberta, and what a grand view, going north—the Rockies on our west, the sun just rising in the east, and the snow-white mountains glistening in the sunlit glory. We will never forget its grandeur. The weather was fine, and we just felt like getting off and getting acquainted with everybody we saw at every town we stopped at, but it was no use; we had to go on, arriving at Edmonton just after dark.

Beautiful scenery, grand river, and what is yet more substantial, a fine saw mill; plenty of coal, which retails in Edmonton for \$2.00 per ton, and prospectively lots of gold. We left Edmonton proper, going east through a very fine country, crossing the river at Fort Saskatchewan, staying there all night, I met an old neighbor from Lake City, who is well satisfied with the country. I also met there the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Forbes, from Aberdeen, Scotland, near where I was born, who also are well pleased with the country and its prospects. Leaving there, we went south and west, coming to

South Edmonton in the evening. Next day we intended to go out by Stony Plain, in a west and northerly circuit, but it snowed in the night enough to whiten the ground, and we were satisfied we had seen, in some respects, the finest country we had ever seen, with the greatest opportunities for rich or poor, especially the young man, poor, but willing to work.

I could distribute more pamphlets, especially about the Yorkton and Edmonton districts, if I had them. I know some families in Scotland, who, I believe, would come out, and I think it would be well to let them know about the Northwest Territories of Canada. I have some good samples of wheat and one of barley that I took home with me, but I wish I had one of oats and one of barley, as the one I have is too small to last long. I am doing what I can to advertise the advantages of Canada West, and quite a few are interested in it.

You can do with this story as you please. Boil it down, try it out, serve it whole, or throw it in the waste basket.

Some of us expect to go out in the Spring, if all is well.

We are, etc,
(Signed.)

George Phillips,
Claus V. Bergen.

Edmonton, Atla., December 8th, 1898.

C. W. Sutter, Esq., Immigration Agent.

Dear Sir: In driving all over the Edmonton district, for six days, we have not found one settler who was not more than pleased with the country and its productions and would not return to the land he left. We have seen people here from all parts of the States, and all doing well. We met a Dakota farmer by name of McLean, who informed us that he had raised more grain here in three years than he did in thirteen where he came from, and on half as much land. We have seen a number of others, both men and women, and all speak in the same strain about Alberta. In our drive over the country in passing the countless school houses, we could only see happiness in the faces of the little ones. We noticed them all well dressed, equal, if not better, than the same class of children in the State of Minnesota.

The wheat that is raised here is beautiful, the kernel full and plump, and may be termed golden grain, yielding from 30 to 55 bushels to the acre. This statement is not from one farmer, but from hundreds who tell the same tale. Oats yield from 70 to 100 bushels to the acre; barley, 40 to 60, and potatoes from 300 to 400 bushels to the acre.

We have taken particular notice of the climate in regard to the difference between this country and our own. When we left Ada, Minnesota, we were in the midst of a real Dakota blizzard, but, with the lightning speed of the C. P. R., we soon left all that behind. When we arrived at Edmonton, we found the people on the streets still wearing their summer clothing, no mittens on their hands, and far less use for them. We spent three-days-driving-over-the-country-in-company-with C. W. Sutter, Government Agent, and we cannot say whether it was his warm-hearted companionship or the climate, but one thing is sure, we suffered nothing from cold even driving until 12 o'clock at night. The country is simply more than we ever dreamed of. The printed matter sent out by the Government does not half tell of the grand country in Alberta, open for millions of people to make beautiful homes for themselves. Too much cannot be said in its praise. It is all and more than the greatest eulogist ever thought of giving to the public.

We saw the cattle and horses in herds, grazing on the prairie like in summer time, all sleek and fat. We were informed by several farmers that most of the stock run out all winter. We looked into this matter most particularly to satisfy a number of our farmers. We also find the market extra good here for beef and pork. Hogs fetch 4½c. a lb., live weight. A 3-year-old steer will sell for from \$40 to \$45 right from the prairie. Coal and wood are here in abundance. Coal is sold in the town of Edmonton for \$2 per ton, and farmers can secure coal at the mines themselves for 75 cents per load.

We find that settlers can purchase their farming implements as cheaply here as in the States, taking freight charges and duty into consideration on new machinery.

Before closing, we say to you one and all, come to Alberta, where there are homes for millions and a promise for something to lay by for old age. We are well satisfied with this country, and as evidence have bought a half section of C.P.R.

land in township 55, range 21, west of the 4th initial meridian, and will return next spring to reside.

Hoping this will be of some benefit to the over-burdened farmers of the United States, we are,

Yours most truly,

(Signed.)

Thomas Rattray, Ada, Minnesota.

Mathew Ormess, Ada, Minnesota.

Jacob Bentley, Ada, Minnesota.

Stephen Plumley, El Paso, Price Co., Wisconsin.

THE GREAT CANADIAN NORTHWEST TERRITORIES.

Benjamin Davies, Canadian Government Agent,

St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: The following is a complete and true report of our examinations of the Canadian Northwestern Territories:

We crossed the international boundary line at Gretna, Manitoba. The first 35 miles is a fine grain-growing country. Then we came to low meadow lands, which extend nearly to Winnipeg. Winnipeg is the metropolis of the Canadian Northwestern Territories, and is a fine growing city of nearly 50,000 inhabitants and has a great future as a wholesale distributing point. Going west over the Canadian Pacific Railway the first 20 miles is low meadow land, where lots of hay is cut annually for the Winnipeg market. After passing the meadow lands we came to a fine farming country in the vicinity of Portage la Prairie and Brandon. This farming country extends west to Moose Jaw. After passing Moose Jaw we came into a fine grazing country where were the finest cattle we ever saw in the world. This grazing country extends west to Calgary and south to the international boundary line and north to Olds on the C. & E. R. R. At Olds we came into the dairy and mixed farming country. The Canadian Government has built creameries at different stations, which gives the farmers a good market for their cream. In the vicinity of Olds, Government lands can still be had within five miles of the railroad, and railroad lands can be had near the railroad for \$3 per acre, on long time and low interest. At Bowden we met H. F. Powell, an old Minnesota man, who has lived there six years, and is well

pleased with his location. Mr. Powell says he can locate a good many more homesteads in four to six miles from the station, and nearly all the railroad lands are still for sale. Innisfail is a very prosperous village with a happy and contented people. Homesteads can still be had near this thriving village. Red Deer is where the train stops for dinner. It has a good hotel, flour mills, saw mills, and a creamery, and is a good point for intending settlers to look over, as there are still homestead lands within 10 to 15 miles, and railroad lands near town. Going north we soon came to the beautiful town of Lacombe, where a great many Michigan people have settled, and all think they are in the best country in the world. The next town of importance is Wetaskiwin, the largest town on the C. & E. R. R., between Calgary and Edmonton. Here you come into a fine farming country with good soil, plenty of timber and good water. There is a large Scandinavian settlement to the east, and a German settlement to the west. Here we consider is a good point for people seeking homesteads. By going east you can find homesteads in 18 to 20 miles, and the railroad company will surely run a branch from here east as soon as the country is settled up enough to justify building it. Going north, we came to Leduc, where there is still homestead lands within 10 to 15 miles. Here the Michigan people are flocking in by car loads. Edmonton is located on the banks of the Saskatchewan River, and has a population of nearly 5,000. It is the outfitting point for the Hudson Bay Company, who has trading posts clear through to the Arctic Ocean. It is the centre of as fine a farming country as there is on the American contingent. The business men are all doing a thriving business, having sold nearly one and a half million dollars worth of goods in the past year. At Edmonton we took teams and drove out among the farmers. We went northeast to the Sturgeon River settlement. The first day we had dinner with Mr. J. A. Rye, a farmer who lives on section 7, township 55, range 23. He came from the Province of New Brunswick. Has lived on his farm six years. He never had a failure in crops, and his wheat has averaged from 30 to 45 bushels per acre; his oats from 70 to 100 bushels; barley from 50 to 70 bushels, and potatoes were always good. Alexander Cameron, who lives on section 18, same township, tells us a similar story.

Louie Jumbo lives on section 12, township 55, range 23. This is near old Fort Saskatchewan. He has lived there 19 years and never had a crop failure, and never raised less than 30 bushels of wheat to the acre, some years he got 50 bushels. We crossed the Saskatchewan River at the Fort, and went south and met Mr. Cunningham, from North Dakota, who has lived on his farm three miles south of Fort Saskatchewan for six years. Mr. Cunningham said last year: "My wheat averaged 39 bushels per acre, and I sold it for 70 cents. I have not threshed yet, but my wheat will average more than it did last year." We asked Mr. Cunningham if he liked it better here than in North Dakota. He said: "This is the best country I ever saw." "Mr. Cunningham, please give some of your reasons for liking this country so well?" "In the first place, it is the best soil I ever saw. We never have had a crop failure; our horses can run outdoors all winter, and come out fat in the spring; our cattle can do the same, but I consider it inhuman to let my cattle run out in storms, and I have shelters for my cattle. We can have good beef every month in the year without feeding grain; the grass keeps all kinds of stock fat the year round." We talked with at least 50 different farmers, some from Ontario, some from North Dakota, Minnesota, Michigan and Montana, and they all told the same story, that wheat averaged 30 to 50 bushels per acre, oats from 70 to 100 bushels, barley from 50 to 70 bushels, and potatoes from 400 to 800 bushels. The soil in the Edmonton district is a black loam from 2 to 4 feet deep, and a clay subsoil. The land is all good; plenty of timber for building and firewood, and plenty of coal along the Saskatchewan and Sturgeon rivers, and can be had at the mines for \$1 per load. The water is good. We consider the Edmonton land district as good for farming as any country we ever saw. Homesteads can be had within 20 to 30 miles of Edmonton, and railroad lands within eight miles.

Summer Frosts.—You ask the farmers around Edmonton if they ever had a summer frost to kill their grain and they will laugh at you. They will tell you, if you want to raise good crops, to have your land all plowed, disked and harrowed in the fall, and as soon as possible in the spring put the drill to work and you are sure of a good crop. Drills are universally used; the McCormick harvester is sold at Edmonton, also the Deere-

ing; the John Deere plow, the Moline plow and the Norwegian plow that we see; perhaps other makes of American farm machinery are sold there that we did not see. The farmers are all contented and happy, with their granaries full of grain and plenty of fat cattle, sheep and hogs, and a good market at their doors for everything they have for sale, and plenty of wood and coal for the hauling, and very low taxes, and the Canadian Government doing everything they can for their people, and no chattel mortgages or seed grain notes to worry them. We cannot see any reason why the Canadian farmer should not be perfectly happy and contented. We will join them just as soon as we can arrange our business. We have no hesitation in recommending the country around Edmonton and along the Calgary and Edmonton Railway to our friends. Any one that will work can do well in this new country. It is settling up very fast, with an energetic and enterprising people from Ontario and nearly all the Western States. The people received us in a very cordial manner at every place we visited, and we had a most delightful journey while examining the country. The people are all kind and generous to strangers, and are very anxious for Americans to come and settle among them. There are no tramps or beggars in Canada. No one can imagine the extent and resources of the great Canadian Northwestern Territories until they look them over.

Yours truly,
(Signed)

L. A. Paddock, Delegates,
Wadena, Wadena Co., Minn.
Adam Aicher, Delegate,
Hewitt, Todd Co., Minn.

REPORT OF FRENCH DELEGATION.

Benjamin Davies, Esq., St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: We left on the 2nd day of August for the Northwest Territories; we reached Winnipeg on the 23rd, and then went to St. Eustache. We saw some nice farming lands and good cattle. Grain was mostly all cut. We then went to Calgary and stopped there two days; it is a very nice town, nice farm lands 16 miles from Calgary. Farmers seem to be all

well off. On the 29th we left Edmonton. North Edmonton is a nice town, and the Saskatchewan river at Edmonton is a very nice river, and a number of coal mines along the banks of the river. Fuel is very cheap. We then drove to Beaver Lake to look at some homesteads. There is very good farming lands at Beaver Lake, and plenty of wood and good water, and plenty of hay. The finest cattle we ever saw are there; the Buffalo grass cannot be beat for raising cattle, horses and sheep. The grain was mostly all cut, and looked very good. We took up ten homesteads at Beaver Creek for ourselves and friends. We then returned to Edmonton and left for St. Paul on the 6th day of September, and arrived at St. Paul on the 9th. We were well used by all the agents at St. Paul, Winnipeg, Calgary and Edmonton. We will leave for Beaver Lake this coming winter.

Yours truly,
(Signed.)

Arthur McGee,
Domina Letourneau,
George Letourneau,
Withrow Station, Minn.

Dauphin, Manitoba, December 6th, 1898.

W. F. McCreary, Dominion Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Dear Sir: Manitoba as a farming country is good as far as I have seen. Since my arrival at Dauphin on September 25th, 1898, have seen as fine a grain and root crop as I ever saw. Wheat has went 25 to 53 bushels per acre. In the Dauphin district I have seen as fine potatoes as I ever saw anywhere, and sound, potatoes of good flavor; having not asked what the yield was of anybody, I would not hesitate at putting the yield at 100 to 350 bushels per acre. Oats are a good crop; barley is a good crop, and all the old settlers say all are successful farmers are what I can say as far as I have been successful. There is plenty of wood; they can get a permit from the Government for 25 cents. Nearly all land here and in the Swan River district will have to be cleared of willow. It is not open prairie here, although there are some places, such as

meadows, that are all clear, except of grass. That is where people get hay. On my way to the Swan River Valley I crossed 24 creeks and rivers within 150 miles. The railroad will be built in the Swan River Valley, and part of it next summer. I think it is a good country for a poor man, and I would advise anyone to come here, if they have no home and want to get a free home, but would advise all to come first and see the country before moving, as all people don't see alike, but, of course, all must do as they like. There is plenty of wild fruit, such as strawberries, red raspberries, plums, cherries, cranberries, black currants and gooseberries. Land is going fast, and those that want free homes must come soon. Railway land sells from \$2 to \$5 per acre; other improved farms at \$2,000 to \$4,000 for 160 acres. The Swan River Valley is a beautiful valley for anyone to settle in. The land is a black sandy loam from 12 to 20 inches deep, and then a clay sub-soil, good for wheat, oats, barley and all root crops.

Hoping this may be of some good to those wanting homes in Manitoba, I will now close.

(Signed.) W. A. Danks,
Dauphin, Manitoba.

TESTIMONY OF SETTLERS.

South Edmonton, N.W.T.; April 25, 1898.
C. J. Broughton, Esq., 1223 Monadnock Building,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir: Before I left Chicago I made a promise to write you and give you my opinion respecting this country.

To begin our journey mentioned, I am bound to say that I was not a little surprised at the way we were treated by you, and through you by the officials of the railway companies over which we passed. Everything was done for our comfort and safety that human foresight could possibly do. The car which you had placed at our service was everything that anyone could desire, the sleeping berths are very comfortable, plenty of room; the kitchen on the cars is a very great convenience, enabling us to cook our meals with the least possible trouble. The trip across the country was very pleasant. We

arrived at Calgary a little behind time on account of a small accident to our engine. We stayed over at Calgary from 9.30 a. m. Thursday to 6 p. m. Friday, our car in the meantime having been switched on a siding, when at the appointed time we were attached to the train on the Calgary & Edmonton road and commenced on the last stage of 200 miles, arriving in Edmonton about 3 a. m. Saturday. We remained in our private car until daylight.

We arrived here about a week to ten days too early, as when we got here the snow had not all gone, so were unable to get out in the country. Some of our party began to get a little impatient at being obliged to remain in town, which we did until April 12th, when upon that day we started out to look over the country, in charge of Mr. Sutter. Our turnout was four double rigs with six men for the first three and two men for the other with part of baggage, tents, etc. We drove first day, 26 miles to Leduc, where we stayed for the night. The land between Edmonton and Leduc, within a reasonable distance from the railway, is all taken up unless it be C. P. R. lands, which are held by the company at \$3 per acre. There are a few quarters that they even ask as high as \$5.

The following morning we drove out 12 miles west of Leduc, where two of our party located, and they seem very well pleased with their selection. The land about there is partially wooded; the soil is all that could be desired. We returned to Leduc for the night, when next morning we took up the trail for Wetaskiwin, where we arrived in the afternoon, stayed at Government House over night, got an early breakfast and took up the trail. We travelled east for about 37 miles in the district situated on the Dried Meat Lake, which at this point is a part of the Battle River. It is one of the most beautiful districts I ever saw; the soil is a very deep black loam, plenty of water as fine as possible to obtain in any part of the world, not excepting Lake Michigan, which our Chicago City Fathers love so much to boom up. The lake is covered over with wild duck and geese at this time of the year; large numbers were there on our arrival. Out in the lake district is chiefly used for ranching, there are so few farms. At every one of which we called we could see that they were living in a land

of plenty. From what I have learned from the farmers last year seems to have put them all on their feet; you cannot drive more than a few miles without meeting farmers driving in new wagons. I have never seen so many new wagons as I have seen since my arrival here. All our party were delighted with the country, but on account of the distance from the market and the hilly nature of the trails, prevented any of us from taking up a homestead. Then we returned from there by the same route as we went out, arriving here on Tuesday, April 19th.

Thursday, April 21st, Mr. F. A. Pierce and I went out on a trip to the Sturgeon River district. We drove direct north of Edmonton 15 miles upon a most beautiful road, when we took to the trail and drove seven miles, where we found Sec. 20, Tp. 56, Range 23, vacant. After looking over the section we decided to accept it and have located, on the west half section. We have fine water, all the timber we require for some time and a large quantity of open land, all ready for the plow. If you refer to the map you will be able to see exactly where we have located. The soil is all that could be desired.

If you have any good people apply to you and ask where they can get good farms, send them to us, as there is plenty of fine land close by to be had. I may say every train arriving here is crowded with settlers and gold seekers. We have located 22 miles from here, 12 miles from Fort Saskatchewan, where there is a fine roller flour mill and a good market; it is headquarters for the N.W.M.P. We are three miles from a grist and saw mill, have good fishing one and a half miles, all kinds of game in the woods. After next week my address will be New Lunnon, Alberta, N.W.T. Some of our party have purchased some fine farms situated on the Indian Reserve and are well pleased with them. I am taking out a party of six this afternoon to look over the district where we have located, and have no doubt but what the greater number of them will locate.

I should be glad if you would ask Mr. Bonell to call at your office and allow him to read this letter.

I think I have about told you all this time. I may at some

future time write you a few more particulars. With kind regards, I remain,

(Signed.)

Yours very truly,
W. Mason.

Edmonton, April 19th, 1898.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Commissioner of Immigration.

Dear Sir: We, the party from Illinois, wish to give you all particulars relative to ourselves and our experience in Alberta. On April 12th we started out to look for homestead lands, leaving Edmonton about noon of that date and making Leduc in the evening, where we found the Government had a building-prepared-for-us—Our-party-filled-four-rigs.—Leaving Leduc, we went to Congering creek, and here we found abundance of timber covering the very best of land, with open places of twenty (20) to thirty (30) acres to each quarter section. We arrived back at Leduc in the evening after an experience of newly-made roads in this country. Our party leaving Illinois March 28th, arrived at Edmonton April 2nd, and remained at Edmonton until April 12th. On account of bad roads, and after an experience of one day we found we were yet too early on the road, many of us having to walk several miles to assist the horses, as it was very hard work for them. Leaving Leduc next day for Wetaskiwin, passed through some very fine country. Staying at Wetaskiwin over night, we started with a sick horse east, arrivng at the head of Dried Meat Lake in the evening, passing through the finest part of the country so far travelled. We camped at night on the farm of Mr. Hill, who has a fine and extensively improved farm. Next day we, twenty of us, went in different directions to look over the country, and we must say on both sides of Dried Meat Lake there is the finest country we have seen and plenty of timber, and every one of our party was very much pleased, and the topic of our conversation was our future. Returning home we had to come the same way, as the trails were so bad; arrived at South Edmonton with man and beast completely tired out. If we had waited a week later our trip would have been more enjoyable for us and would have saved many miles of walking, tired limbs and sore feet. We all like

this country and intend to make our homes here, and we all appreciate the system of the Government in assisting men to settle here. We have examined all grains, the products of this country, and believe them the best we have ever seen, and more to the acre than in Illinois. Also cattle that fed on the prairie all winter are in good condition in the spring. And we are glad to state that we have found everything here as stated to us by the Government representative in Chicago, and we all thought that if the country was half as good as stated by C. J. Broughton, we would be satisfied; the country is much better than we thought of in Illinois.

Yours very respectfully,

W. C. Schmidt, Illinois.

C. B. Shantz, Illinois.

G. L. Simpkins, Illinois.

C. E. Allyn, Bradley, Ill.

N. Girard, Bradley, Ill.

Bernhardt Schultz, Bradley, Ill.

Albert Zeimer, Bradley, Ill.

Charley Black, Bradley, Ill.

John Smyth, Bradley, Ill.

Wm. Mason, Bradley, Ill.

James Braden, Wisconsin.

Samuel Braden, Wisconsin.

Jesse Barret, Wisconsin.

Henry Schultz, Bradley, Ill.

Thos. Worth, Bradley, Ill.

Frank F. Pierce, Cook Co., Ill.

J. Worth, Bradley, Ill.

Leo Cravier, Bradley, Ill.

M. A. Worth, Bradley, Ill.

South Edmonton, April 25th, 1898.
C. J. Broughton, Canadian Government Agent,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir: Since writing my last letter to you I have thought of a few more particulars which you might wish to know. In my last letter I did not mention anything in respect to the quality of the grain and other produce which is grown in this

district. I have been shown the very finest wheat, oats and barley that I ever saw, not even excepting Lincolnshire, England, which county was famed for growing some of the best grain in the country. The wheat I have seen is of a wonderful bright shade, the oats would rule No. 1 in any market in the world, and barley, No. 1 maltish. I have had interviews with farmers from England, Ireland, Scotland, and also the States, and they one and all tell me that this district is the finest they ever struck. I have seen cattle that had run out all winter, and were in first-class condition for market, in fact much better than the cattle we get from the Stock Yards and which are slaughtered for use of Chicago people.

You cannot make any mistake in advising anyone to settle in this district. You are at liberty to make any use of this letter you like. I remain,

Yours very truly,

(Signed.)

W. Mason.

P. S.—I shall be glad to receive a letter from you advising me of any parties you would like to locate next us.

Chicago, May 14th, 1898.

Chas. J. Broughton, 1223 Monadnock Block, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir: I have just returned from a trip through Saskatchewan and Assiniboina, in Canada, and North and South Dakota and Minnesota, in the States. I have spared neither time nor money in thoroughly investigating these separate districts for my own personal interest, to find the best place for myself and family to settle permanently. I am an experienced and practical farmer and rancher. I have absolutely no connection or interest of any kind with any land company, person or persons, who have an object in settling up any country. I am almost an entire stranger to yourself, Mr. Broughton, and send you this unsolicited letter of my own free volition, that you may give others the benefit of my experience and also, as a mark of appreciation of your courtesy and zeal in my interest as a settler.

I left Chicago, Monday, 6 p. m., March 28th, 1898. Mr. Broughton met me at the depot and introduced me to party of

some twenty farmers, among whom was M. A. Worth, of Bradley, and Mr. Mason, of Lincolnshire, England. They were all from Illinois, and were going to Edmonton, Alberta. We had a Canadian Pacific Railway tourist car all to ourselves. I parted company with these gentlemen 36 hours later at Regina; where I took the branch road up to Prince Albert, but, before leaving them, I will mention an incident that occurred at Portal, on the boundary line, where we were detained half an hour. Six or seven of us got out of the hot car in our shirt sleeves, and were walking around the platform and vicinity, when some one ran across a thermometer that registered 10 below zero, which immediately started an argument, no one being willing to admit that it was much colder than freezing. At Regina, as at the district seat of every district, the Government has provided a building for the accommodation of settlers. They are well built, warm and commodious. The Government not only furnishes all the fuel you want free, but also the lamps and kerosene oil free. Now for the reason of these tourist cars and settlers' houses. I strongly advise any man who knows what district he wishes to settle in, to take his family right with him, bring a supply of bedding and a few dishes, and he can keep his family in comparative comfort in nearly every case, much cheaper than leaving them behind while he hunts up land and builds his new home. I forgot to mention that these settlers' halls are also provided with plenty of tables and benches and elevations above the floor whereon to arrange beds.

I found the town of Prince Albert quite a lively and picturesque place of some 5,000, situated on the banks of the north branch of the Saskatchewan river. There is a large flour mill, three saw mills, large brick bank building, about 100 miscellaneous stores and a good cable ferry. I will quote some of the ruling prices on such things that a prospective settler may need; these prices, of course, only apply to this particular neighborhood, and I consider them exorbitant. For instance, lumber averages \$22 per thousand; a pair of glazed sash frames, medium size, 12 lights of glass, costs \$1.50; kerosene is from 40 to 50 cents per gallon; sugar, 16 pounds, \$1; tea and coffee, about the same as in the Eastern

States and Ontario; and tobacco just double; a good four-foot drag or log saw, with two clips, \$4; the best axes, complete with handles, \$1.25; butter, buy or sell, 20 cents per pound; eggs, buy or sell, from 10 to 20 cents, according to season; horses are rather high, and heavy drafts are scarce and in demand and a team weighing 2,600 readily sell at \$200; 2,800, \$250; 3,000, \$300 to \$350. I am going to ship three teams of heavy mares from Chicago for my own use. The average cow, "coming in," ranges from \$25 to \$35.

The winters start in very suddenly, generally about the 1st of December, and for four months the mercury seldom, if ever, gets above zero, during which time from two to three feet of snow accumulates, but by reason of the extreme dryness of the air during the winter and the absence of wind, the weather is scarcely noticed in comparison to the winters of Illinois. The temperature gets rather high in midsummer, though the nights are always cool and bracing, and in parts it has been known to get cool enough in nights of June and July to damage wheat crops by frost. Of course, the returns of crop from a given number of acres is governed here, as in the wheat-raising districts of the United States, by the amount of rainfall and moisture it received when most needed during its growth and maturity, and by the most careful and painstaking inquiry I could learn, of no year in the past when there had been anything like an entire failure, from this or any other source; 25 bushels to the acre is probably the lowest yield recorded. I have had interviews with farmers all round Prince Albert, north, east, south and west, but find it hard to form an approximately correct wheat average, most of them striking me as being inclined to over-estimate, in fact some gave me figures in good faith that I do not care to quote, as while they may be correct in their case, might be held up to ridicule by the uninformed, but, to sum it up, I will take the liberty of estimating the average wheat yield year in and year out, for the district of Saskatchewan, at between 34 to 36 bushels to the acre, and conscientiously believe my estimate on the safe side. The products of this district are wheat, barley, oats, and cattle for the market, all vegetables (but tomatoes), and eggs, butter and poultry for the local markets.

For my part, I am going to settle somewhere in township 45, range 16 or 17. This piece of country is cut up with living creeks and small lakes. The supply of poplar and spruce is unlimited. Thousands of tons of wild hay going to waste every year. Of course, where a stretch of hay land occurs, the ground is so low and wet as to be worthless for farming, but all around here the soil is similar to that around Regina—a heavy black clay loam from one to ten feet deep, with a clay sub-soil. It is unusually hard to work the first two years after breaking. The dead grass should be burnt off as early as possible in the spring, but never under any circumstances commence breaking until the grass is good and green and of fair growth. June is the best time to commence. This is called Stony Creek and Carrot River country, and lays about seventy miles east by a little south of Prince Albert. Seventy miles to market is the only drawback this country has, so that a settler coming in here had better raise stock chiefly, and only such grain as he may need for his own use, and if he has a few loads to spare, haul it to market when he has most time during the winter. There is to be a railroad through this country, the right-of-way being surveyed and the first half of the road completed from Winnipeg. When this road is completed, it will make Stony Creek over 200 miles nearer to Winnipeg than Prince Albert and give them a vast advantage over Prince Albert, but work on the construction of this road has been stopped, and as yet I have not been able to learn when it will be put through, as I have not yet got hold of the right source to make inquiries, but am attending to that now.

North of Prince Albert, across the river, for about thirty miles, the land is not what I call fit for farming. The land is light, sandy, stony and densely wooded. Forty miles north commences a vast tract of land that is more or less low and is a veritable stockman's paradise. If you have capital, and wish to engage in stock raising, go and see that country by all means.

West of Prince Albert, thirty miles, is Shell River settlement, where a settler can find some very good "quarters" within three to eight miles of plenty of timber, but, on the whole, the land is too light and sandy, and is often the only

district where the crops are damaged by frost. But at present the market and shipping possibilities are in their favor.

On the way back I stopped three days in North Dakota and three days in Minnesota, and put my time to the best possible advantage. Some years ago I travelled pretty well over the State of Kansas, and at one time farmed there, so I will include my opinion as to the average wheat yield of that state with the others, as follows:—

Kansas	6 bushels per acre.
Minnesota	9 bushels per acre.
North Dakota	12 bushels per acre.
Assiniboina	37 bushels per acre.
Saskatchewan	36 bushels per acre.

The foregoing pretty well covers the result of my trip to the Canadian Northwest. So, thanking you for your many kind offices, and wishing you the good luck and prosperity you so eminently merit, I am,

Most respectfully yours,
(Signed.) Geo. H. Hawkins.

Danforth, Ill., October 31st, 1898.

Mr. C. H. Broughton.

Dear Sir: The City of Winnipeg surprised us greatly, and we spent the day pleasantly taking in the sights. The next morning we took the train for Lauder. Our train was loaded down with harvesters from the east going out to help harvest the immense crops of Manitoba. The crops along the line in many places were excellent, and the advanced state of the country a surprise to us. The houses, barns, and general appearance of the farms in many sections would compare favorably with many in Illinois. After a walk of three miles from Lauder we called on Mr. Alcock, Sr., who has made a success of farming there. He was loud in his praise of that section of Manitoba. We were strongly tempted to locate right there, but improved land in that locality ranges from \$15 to \$25 per acre, which is rather above the average home-seeker. The Edmonton district was our objective point, but we decided, if things had been misrepresented, we would look no further, but so far from that being the case, we found

everything better than we expected and decided to go on to Edmonton. We reached Brandon at 11 a. m. and spent the remainder of the day going over the Experimental Farm. The crops were being harvested, and such crops of wheat, oats and barley I had never seen before anywhere. We left Brandon for Edmonton, passing through a country that is mainly devoted to grazing, seeing many fine herds of cattle and sheep. This seems to be a great cattle country. The cattle everywhere were fat, and right off the grass would compare favorably with our corn-fed cattle. And I think that a man with sufficient capital could do well here in the cattle business, having almost unlimited range, and prices being good. At Edmonton we secured rigs, and, guided by Mr. Sutter, land agent, drove north to the Sturgeon River district, which is a fine farming district, harvesting being nearly completed, and the crops fine. We continued to drive for four days in different directions, and the whole party were well pleased with the country surrounding Edmonton. The farmers seemed to be prospering, and every man we talked with seemed to think there was no place like it, many of the settlers being from the States and have no desire to return. One field we saw had been in wheat twelve years in succession. I think this district is well adapted for mixed farming, and a good place for a man of small capital to locate, there being good soil, range for stock, timber for building and fuel, and coal can be had at two dollars per ton at Edmonton. While one must go out twenty-five or thirty miles to get suitable homestead land, railroad land can be bought quite close to town for from \$3 to \$4 per acre. The market for farm produce, when we were at Edmonton was quite satisfactory. But whether it will hold up with increased immigration and production remains to be seen. Farm machinery is much higher than in the Middle States, and many household articles, especially kerosene oil, which sells at 45 cents per gallon, which seems exorbitant; clothing is about the same price as here, while fruit is naturally higher. I would advise the intending settler, who has good stock and farming implements, to take them along.

We also took a trip to the Swan River Valley, where there

will be a large immigration in the spring, many thousands of acres of land having been taken this fall. We stopped at Dauphin, a town of less than two years, and were surprised to see the growth it had made, having three grain elevators, a saw mill, flour mill, two livery stables, and many hotels, and doing a business that many a city might envy. The town is surrounded by a fine farming country, the soil black and deep and the crops are good this year.

In conclusion, I will say that I intend to return in the spring to locate, and can conscientiously recommend this country to anyone who wants to have a home of their own, and a good return for industrious effort, which one cannot always get in these times of high rents and low prices.

Yours truly,

(Signed.)

James Common,
Danforth, Ill.

REPORTS OF UNITED STATES DELEGATES ON WESTERN CANADA.

The following reports have been received by the officials of the Immigration Branch of the Department of the Interior from delegates from different districts in the States of Michigan, Iowa, South Dakota, Missouri, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, Illinois and California, who were sent by farmer's residing in their respective districts, to investigate and report regarding the advantages offered by Western Canada as an agricultural country. These reports speak for themselves, and show how deeply impressed these delegates were by the magnificent opportunities of the Great Canadian West, as unfolded to their eyes on their recent trip.

Detroit, Mich, Oct. 28, 1898.

M. V. McInnes, Esq., Dominion Government Agent,
Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Sir: I have returned from Alameda; met all my friends and saw the finest agricultural country in the world. Present and future opportunities are great. I took up a quarter section and am going to buy three more quarter sections.

I have this day resigned my position as Secretary and Treasurer of the Michigan Heater Company; am selling my property here and will move out to Alameda in March. Some of my friends here will go along with me.

Thanking you, I am,

(Signed.)

Yours truly,

A. Knebush.

Alameda, Canada, Sept. 12, 1898.

M. V. McInnes, Esq., Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Sir: We are here and find everything as you said. We will go with Mr. McCarven in the morning and select our land. I wrote my brother-to-come-and-bring-his-tools, as we will have our hands full this winter getting up houses.

I will write you more in a few days. Best regards from all the boys.

From your friend,

(Signed.)

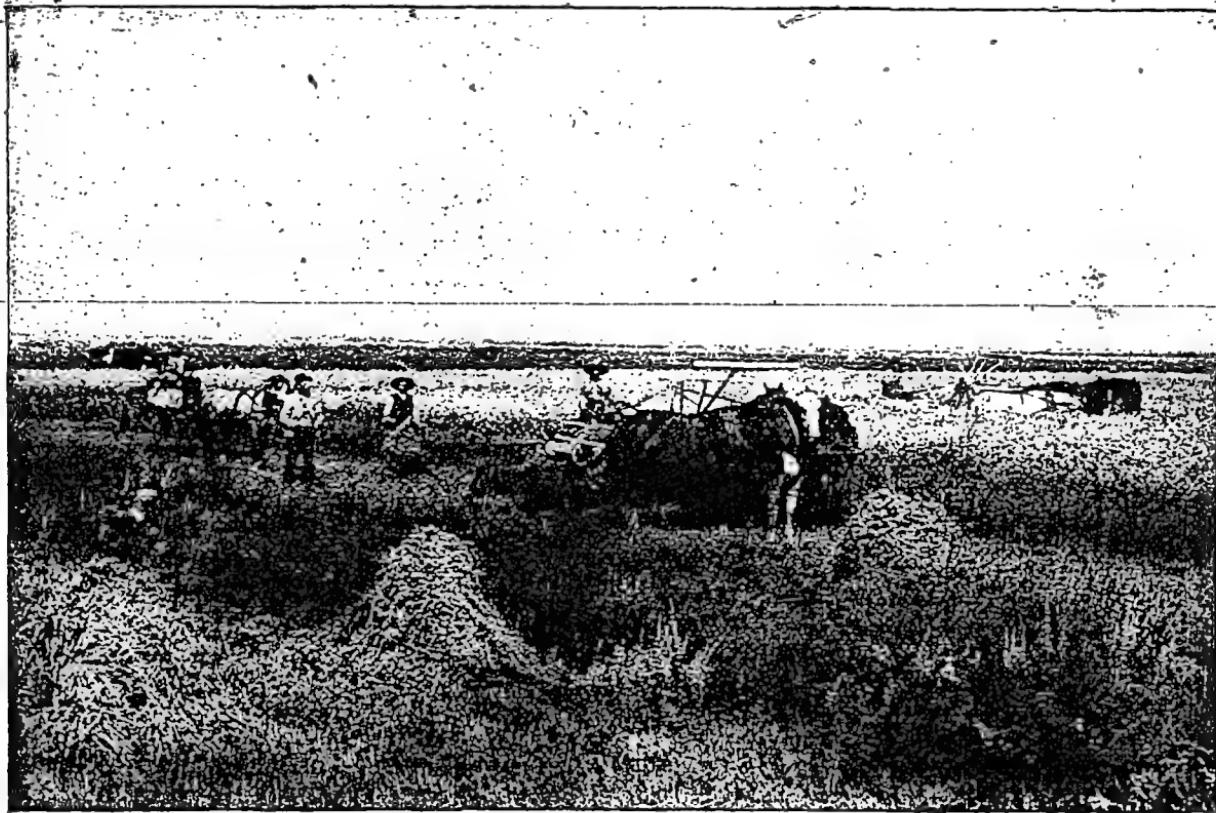
Charley Knebush.

Breckenridge, Mich., Oct. 4, 1898.

M. V. McInnes, Esq., Chief Canadian Government Agent,
Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Sir: After quite an extended trip through Manitoba, Alberta and Western Canada generally, I wish to report to you and the public that the country through which I travelled far exceeded, in its fine climate and resources, my utmost expectations. I found Western Canada to be all that the Government pamphlets and official publications claimed for it. The land is the very richest that I ever saw. I believe that a man with the true snap in him can make a grand home for himself in a short time in this well-favored country.

There was one remarkable thing I saw all along the route at every place of any note, and that was well constructed grain elevators of immense capacity. This spoke louder to me than all the pamphlets I read, for men do not spend money that way simply for show. They expect them to be filled with grain, and I am certain, from what I saw, that they will not be disappointed.



REAPING WHEAT IN WESTERN CANADA

We next arrived at Edmonton. We went in a northeasterly direction as far as Fort Saskatchewan, and then took a sweep to the southward, and back to Edmonton through a wide tract of magnificent country, abounding in splendid crops and fine cattle. The farmers here seemed to be most active and industrious and well satisfied with their circumstances and surroundings.

My friend, Mr. Barnes, with whom I travelled, was greatly taken with this Edmonton district, which is grand, healthy and promising without a doubt. Then we returned to Innisfail, and enjoyed another two days' drive into the surrounding country, which is excellently adapted for mixed farming, and settled with a thriving and contented peasantry. There is a fine Government creamery at this place. We paid a visit to it, and found it to be well appointed and in good working order. The returns made to the farmers for their cream are highly satisfactory to them.

Our next trip was to Dauphin, in the northern section of Manitoba. Dauphin and its beautiful surroundings constitutes a rich and fertile country, abounding in grain and root crops of the very finest order, and is settled by an intelligent, wideawake and prosperous people.

All the different districts of the country which we had the pleasure of visiting were rich and inviting, but, to my mind the Dauphin district surpassed them all in fertility of soil and all those accessories to husbandry which go to make up substantial agricultural communities, and well-suited in every particular for a practical farmer's home. Nowhere did we see the slightest dissatisfaction among the farmers, who were everywhere contented and happy, but on every side we perceived the undoubted evidences of wonderful abundance and great prosperity.

In conclusion, I will say, in the most candid manner, that Western Canada is the country of all others for the industrious farmer to make his home.

I remain, dear sir,

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed.)

J. McAllum.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Oct. 17, 1898.

Mr. McInnes,

Dear Sir: I live seven miles from Grand Rapids. I was at the State Fair, and, though I had some pamphlets about the land in Canada, I was surprised at the fine show of grain and grasses that I saw there, and I started the next week to see the country myself. It cost me a good bit the way I went, but I am not sorry. I think Canada West is a great place; such fine farms for the cost of going there. I only wish I known about it sooner. I found Manitoba pretty well taken up. I went to the Alameda country and found the farmers contented, and so they might be, for they have had a good crop, many of them that went up only last year. All the land between the village of Alameda and the Moose Mountains is very good. There was a great deal of rain in Manitoba, but not so much farther west. I liked the country about Edmonton and Red Deer very well; plenty of wood and coal. I saw great many cattle and horses in the Alberta country. A man don't know a place till he sees it. I expected to find good land, but I did not expect to find the country so well supplied with schools, churches, cheese factories, creameries, grain elevators and good farm buildings.

Well, Mr. McInnes, I want you to write me and tell me how much it will cost me and my family to go to Red Deer station. I know a few people about there, and I am satisfied there is no better place in the country; they have done well and got pretty well off. I have two boys; one will soon be eighteen years old and the other is sixteen, one girl fourteen, one eleven, boy nine, girl seven, and myself and wife. I will take my horses, and perhaps a couple of cows, but I will tell you more particulars. I have a chance to sell my place, and will go about the first of April. They told me that was the best time to go.

The big show you made at Grand Rapids was a great thing for Canada West. It made a great talk about it, and everyone is asking me about the Canadian West since I came back. I did not see so much of it as I should like. I just tell them, as I tell you, that I am going to move there in the spring with

my family. I believe a great many more will go, too. You might send me a few books to give my neighbors.

Hoping to hear from you soon, I am,

Yours truly,

(Signed.)

John Bowen.

Midland, Mich., Oct. 21, 1898.

M. V. McInnes, Esq., Chief Immigration Agent of the Canadian Government, Detroit, Michigan.

My dear Sir : I left Midland early in August and visited many points of interest between Winnipeg and Edmonton. When I left Winnipeg I journeyed through a rich and rolling country, studded on both sides of the way with huge waving fields of the yellow grain, amid the largest and finest farms I ever looked at, till I came to Yorkton, which lies at a distance of 280 miles from Winnipeg.

I examined the country around Yorkton for two or three days and talked a long time with many farmers, taking particular notice of everything that went to make up a farmer's outfit and the manner in which he went about harvesting his wonderful crops. Everything was on a gigantic scale. The barns, stables, outhouses, horses, reapers, tools, utensils and appliances were all of the largest dimensions imaginable. The country is big, the men are big, everything is big, except the dwelling houses—they are the only small things I saw. More money seemed to be put into everything else except the place that holds the farmer and his family. It looked like business, and pleased me well.

This is a stock and grain-raising country, finer and more promising than I ever saw before. No one could make a mistake in settling here.

Well satisfied with what I saw here, I went off to Regina, passing through immense fields of wheat and barley, with the same evidences of great prosperity on all sides. Every one we saw and spoke to seemed to be thoroughly well satisfied with their prospects. They were all well clad and the picture of health and contentment.

School-houses and churches were everywhere, to be seen. There appeared to be plenty of wood for every purpose, with

abundance of pure, clear, cold water on every man's farm. Wherever I went around this section the children looked healthy and well cared for, with bright eyes and red glowing cheeks. Sure signs of good times and thrift. No place for a doctor this.

Mixed farming flourishes in this locality and the man who cannot succeed near Regina, with health, sobriety and industry, can succeed nowhere. I am fully persuaded of this. My own long experience in Michigan makes it a certainty to my mind. Had I all my manhood's years to live over again I would surely live them in Western Canada, and cultivate its wonderful soil with great confidence and a contented mind.

The Carrot River settlement was another place I visited. I found practically the same favorable conditions existing here as at the former places. A black, loamy soil, immense crops, sunshiny weather, well-conditioned kine, powerful horses, new modelled machinery, neat farm houses, capacious barns, gigantic grain elevators, well-filled school houses, pure water, a healthy climate, well-clad farmers, busy housewives, bright children, waving seas of wheat and barley, a contented people and happy homes. All these I saw wherever I went. The whole land is rich with promise.

After a well earned rest in the busy city of Calgary, I paid a visit to the adjacent country. This is a stock-raising and ranching district that, I believe, has no peer among the farming countries of the world. The droves of fat cattle and troops of well-fed horses attested at once to the great feeding properties of the succulent grasses that abound there. It costs comparatively little to raise these horses and cattle. They thrive on what grows without cultivation and a slight diversity of food with good attention is all that seems to be required to produce most excellent and saleable stock. A yeoman with some means and an eye to the raising of all kinds of stock, could locate here to much advantage and become independent in a few years.

Edmonton was next visited. The towns and scattered settlements between Calgary and this point make up a large country in themselves. They are settled by the representa-

tives of different nationalities. The Britisher, the American, the Canadian—both English and French—the German, the Pole, the Russian, the Scandinavian, the Anglo-Saxon and the Celt are all here, thriving and active, and working away, in united friendship, under Canada's flag of freedom.

It is needless for me to detail what I saw in the surroundings of Edmonton. The same prolific land and grand farms, suitable for mixed farming in every respect, met my eye at every stopping place. Three prime factors of progress arrested my observation here, as elsewhere, since leaving Winnipeg and will meet the gaze of the prospector in Western Canada wherever he goes. They are the delightful climate, the fertility of the soil and the general contentment of the people. These features speak loudly for the future of this great country.

I am, dear Sir, yours very respectfully,

(Signed)

William Bolton.

A SPLENDID OUTLOOK.

June 17, 1898.

The following letter, which has been forwarded to us by Mr. Caven, though written at Winnipeg, is descriptive of the Swan River District, near where B. Clark & Sons and others from Michigan have settled. The letter speaks well for this section of the Northwest.

Winnipeg, Man., June 1, 1898.

W. L. Caven, Esq., Colonization Agent, Bad Axe, Mich.

Dear Sir: I duly received the marked copy of Brown City Banner of 20th May last; and I have read with considerable interest the report of the arrival of Mr. Clark and his two sons in the Dauphin district.

You will no doubt be glad to hear that the Swan River district is likely to prove as inviting a field for immigration as Dauphin. The land agent had not been in Swan River district six hours before he had written over fifty homestead entries, and the latest reports we had from the district goes to show that over 150 legitimate settlers had made entry,

and that large parties were then in the district and on the way with a view to locating.

I am running an excursion from North Dakota for the benefit of home seekers on 15th June next, and if indications point to anything, it is that we will have a large party. I am expecting that many of our Michigan friends will join in the procession, and that the Swan River District will in every sense be a duplicate of the Dauphin district.

Construction is now going on in the district, starting from a point two miles north of Sifton and running in north western direction into the heart of the Swan River country. Track laying will begin in about two or three weeks time, so that this coming fall the railroad will be an accomplished fact, and we will therefore be prepared to haul out the grain and stock next year.

I hope we will have a large number of people from your country to swell the numbers locating tributary to our Road; and I am sure in this regard our interests would not be left in better hands than your own.

Yours truly,
D. B. Hanna.

A LETTER FROM ALBERTA.

The following letter written by Thomas H. Graham, of Calkinsville, Mich., who, along with J. I. Kirkpatrick, of Clare, paid a visit to the Canadian West this spring, will prove interesting:

Mr. J. N. Grieve, ~~Colonization Agent~~, Calkinsville, June 14, 1898.
Mt. Pleasant, Mich.

Dear Sir: After an extended trip through Alberta and Northwestern Canada, I wish to say to you and the public that the country through which I travelled far exceeded my expectations. I thought perhaps the immigration pamphlet was printed to boom the country, but I found the country better than they stated. The land is the richest I ever saw and I believe that any man with a small capital and a little energy, can, in a few years, become well off. There was one thing I

noticed along the way at every place of any account was grain elevators of great capacity; they must mean something. They were not built for fun or show, they were built to store the great grain crops of which they are sure every year. I found settlers from Michigan whose circumstances I knew when settling there, and they have done well. They have surrounded themselves with everything to make home comfortable, and I expect to see them well off in a few years. Grain of all kinds yield great crops and as for cattle raising or ranching, I believe it is the best country in the world.

~~It is a grand country for the poor man, and it is a good country for the rich man. The man with money can find good paying investments, and the man without money can soon get a start and grow up with the country.~~

In conclusion, will say Alberta is all right; rich land, good water a very healthy climate.

Yours truly,

Thomas H. Graham.

P. S.—Mr. Kirkpatrick, who accompanied Mr. Graham on his trip through Western Canada, has proven his faith in the country by moving there with his wife, his sons and their wives and families. The party left Clare, going via St. Paul, on Monday, the 13th inst., the Canadian Government Agent, of Mt. Pleasant, accompanying them across Lake Michigan as far as Manitowac.

T. G.

Kalkaska, Kalkaska County, Michigan.
January 21st, 1899.

M. V. McInnes, Chief Canadian Government Agent,
Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Sir: Although I am only recovering from an attack of the gripe, and am quite weak, I will cheerfully give you my views on Western Canada, which is rightly called the poor man's country.

I arrived at Calgary, Alberta, on the 19th of April, 1898, and remained in and about the city for two or three weeks to see what the opening of spring was like. It was very beautiful, the grass coming rapidly right along. You could almost see it grow. The nights were cool, but there was no frost.

I then left Calgary and went to my daughter's-place in British Columbia, expecting to return in the season of harvesting and threshing, but the gripe was still on me, and this kept me there till the latter part of October, when I returned to Calgary. ~~On the last of October all around Calgary I found~~ beautiful weather, warm days and cool nights, but no frost. There I met a number of settlers who had taken up homesteads in the vicinity three or four years ago. They said they would never return to the States, but remain where they were. They were all busy and said that this was the time they made their money. If a man has a few hundred dollars in this place it will set him up all right and at once, and even without money he can get along, but it will take him some little time to get well under way.

Now, Mr. McInnes, I want to say to you right here that there are thousands of men with families here in the east renting farms or owning small holdings. They may have a team of horses, and perhaps a cow or two. They work and plod away year after year to see the same unsatisfactory ending as the years go by. I notice this state of things more now than I did before. I have talked with a good many of them, and I say to them that they had better get what they can for their farms and stuff and go at once to Alberta, for delay will only make their financial condition worse, for it will hinder them from getting homesteads near the railroad and drive them back farther from it the longer they stay away. Besides, I tell them it will only cost them a trifle to get to Alberta and they can buy most of the things they want very reasonably when they get there.

Many of them ask me why I talk so favorably of Alberta as a poor man's country. I tell them it is because they can each get a free homestead farm of 160 acres and have only \$10.00 to pay for the title papers; that, besides being able to cultivate great grain crops, they can grow potatoes in abundance and cabbage and all kinds of vegetables and turnips, and all the root crops, and as soon as ever these are taken out of the ground cash is paid for them on the spot. There is no better market for produce in the world than right there in Western Canada.

Calgary is near a great lumbering and mining country, which is open all the year round and full of men at hard work. There is a firm at the town of Revelstoke that keeps a general supply store and sells lots to camps and small stores, who offered me a continuous contract for all the produce, meat, poultry, vegetables, eggs, and anything that men could eat. So you see that a working man could dig up the sod and support himself nicely till large crops were grown and sold. As for healthiness, they hardly know what sickness is in that country. Fevers and biliousness I never saw there. As for wheat, it is at the head of the class, and oats come next. I saw some of the Alberta oats, and I tell you it is large and filled good. I did not see any of the wheat, but I ate some of the flour, and it makes the finest bread you can get anywhere. Besides wheat and oats they grow barley and rye there very successfully.

Furthermore, as to the poor man, I think he should get some hens and turkeys, and raise chickens and eggs, if he could do no more for the first year. What he could make out of 200 or 300 hens would keep him up till he could do better, and he could raise a patch of millet or buckwheat to winter them on. The people will come to your door with the cash for every dozen of eggs you get, and if you work away it will only be two or three years till you get plenty of grain coming on. After you have one good crop out you are over the hill and on a fine level road in a grand country.

I would be out in Calgary now, but the sickness that I caught here still delays me, but I have got a good homestead claim there and intend going out next spring with my son and take up another for him near at hand. Then we will work together and make our home in that fine country. Once I shake off my illness and get settled there I will be all right. I would advise every man who wishes to get on and make a good home for himself and be prosperous to go to Alberta next spring, take up a good homestead claim and go to work. He will never regret it.

Yours very respectfully,

(Signed.)

G. W. Carothers.

Edmonton, Nov. 10, 1898.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Commissioner of Immigration,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Dear Sir: We, the undersigned delegates, beg to state we have been looking over Alberta district in the vicinity of Edmonton, and are pleased with the country and its productions; in fact, so much that we have each taken up a homestead and bought three quarters of C. P. R. land. This indication is sufficient to show the public that we are more than satisfied with Alberta and its capabilities. Before closing, we wish to state that we were well received by Immigration Agent Sutter. He was always ready to give information and assisted us in every way possible.

(Signed.)

J. A. Sangster,
Irvin Ferris,
Mount Pleasant, Mich.

Winnipeg, Man., August 15th, 1898.
W. F. McCreary, Esq., Commissioner of Immigration,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Sir: We, the undersigned, delegates from St. Louis, Gratiot County, Michigan, having visited the Edmonton district, submit to you the following report of our opinions of the country.

We were driven around the district by Mr. Sutter, Immigration Agent at Edmonton. We saw the districts of Fort Saskatchewan and Stony Plain. We were greatly pleased with these portions, and found the crops to be first-class; in fact, we believe that we saw the best crops in these districts that we have seen since leaving home. They were not as near maturity as some that we saw in Manitoba, but the farmers were satisfied that they would mature before any frost came.

We called upon Mr. William Walker, at Fort Saskatchewan. He being away, Mrs. Walker told us to make ourselves at home. We went and examined his crop. He has 125 acres of wheat in crop this year, and we were informed that this is the twelfth year in succession that this has been under crop. From the appearance of the crop, we should judge that it

would yield 30 bushels to the acre. We also saw a large field of oats that was looking fine, and insured a large yield.

We also visited a German settlement in this district, and found them well contented and doing well.

In our opinion, we think the Edmonton district is all that it is represented to be, and can recommend it to anyone who is desirous of making a home. We cannot see why anyone going into that country, with perseverance and push, cannot succeed.

We have also visited the Innisfail district and found it adapted for mixed farming. They have not gone very extensively into wheat raising as yet, but as a mixed farming district it is as good as any we saw. The dairying interest seems to be the most prominent thing amongst the farmers of this district, and they are making a success of it. We visited the creamery at that point, and found them making a first-class quality of butter. We also found that the patrons of the creamery were perfectly satisfied at the manner in which it was conducted.

We also visited the Government Experimental Farm at Brandon, Manitoba, and were greatly pleased with what we saw there.

We also visited the Virden (Manitoba) district, and were driven around by members of the Board of Trade, and found it to be a fine country, suitable for wheat raising. The crops looked well, and no doubt there will be a large yield of wheat.

We shall have no hesitancy, on our return home, in recommending the Northwest as a place of settlement, and, as soon as we can dispose of our places, we intend returning and settling.

Yours, etc.,

(Signed.)

John McCallum,
S. M. Barnes.

Bryon, Ohio, July 30, 1898.

M. V. McInnes, Esq., 1 Merrill Block, Detroit, Mich.

Respected Sir: Yours of the 23rd instant is before me. I believe that you have a great country of many resources

and productions, and a climate that is healthy and agreeable. A country in its infancy of greatness, a country that will contain, in the near future, many millions of industrious, prosperous and happy people.

Our war with Spain has taken, temporarily, our surplus population. When this surplus returns there will again be a feeling of unrest, some place to go to make a decent living and a home that they can call their own, and where their dependents will have a better chance.

Enclosed you will find a few names. I will send you more later on, and I hope that they will eventually bear fruit. I like your honorable mode of treating prosperous emigrants. As I have opportunity and leisure will talk Western Canada. I wish no reward, except your continued confidence and good wishes.

Very respectfully,
(Signed.) Emanuel Ryder.

REPORT OF FRENCH-CANADIAN DELEGATION FROM SAGINAW COUNTY.

Saginaw, Mich., April 11, 1898.

M. V. McInnes, Esq., Room 1, Merrill Block, Detroit, Mich.

Dear Sir: We, the undersigned, being the delegates appointed from Saginaw County for Manitoba and the Canadian Northwest, report as follows:—

We left Saginaw on the 9th day of March, over the C.P.R. line from Windsor, and arrived at Winnipeg on the 12th day of the same month.

Our idea in going to that country at this time of year was principally to get acquainted with the winters of the Northwest, which had been reported very severe.

The following Monday we left Winnipeg for Brandon, with the intention of visiting the Government Experimental Farm.

We left Brandon on the 15th, and went as far as Moosomin. There we stopped over night, and the next morning we start-

ed with a sled and good span of horses with the intention of visiting the surroundings of Moose Mountain. The part of the country is all prairie, without a single tree. It is not exactly a flat ground, but what is called more or less rolling land. The soil is rich, black loam, adapted to the culture of all kinds of grain. However, we did not reach Moose Mountain on account of a heavy snow storm, which came up that day. We went only as far as Cannington, which is four miles from Moose Mountain, and directed our steps toward Oxbow. We stayed in the surroundings of that place three days, visiting the country and studying the nature of the soil, which was partly of black sand. From what we have seen in the farmers' granaries, and the reports given to us at the different elevators, that soil must be immensely productive, wheat being from 30 to 35 bushels to the acre, and barley as much as 60 bushels to the acre, while oats are from 45 to 50 bushels to the acre. We left on March 22nd for Edmonton, and all along that part of our travels (1,032 miles distance), we have seen horses and cattle grazing the grass without the appearance of a shelter, and all looking in good and lively condition. During our stay at Edmonton, which was three days, we spent our time visiting the country, the farms and farmers, trying to get from them all possible information.

We found that part of the country well supplied with wood for firing and building purposes, and an abundance of coal. The country is well supplied with water, being cut across by rivers and lakes. These rivers and lakes, from reports, are alive with fish, such as whitefish, pickerel, etc. The woods are also well-filled with game of all kinds for the lovers of hunting.

We have not lost a chance of information from anyone who happened to be in our way, and, briefly speaking, we have found it a rich, agricultural country, adapted to the raising of all kinds of grain, and producing, on an average, about as much as we mentioned about Oxbow. That part of the country is also very advantageous for the raising of cattle, horses, sheep, etc., etc. Some of the farmers make the raising of stock their only occupation, finding it a very paying business.

To resume all, we have been well-pleased with the country, and believe that an industrious and economical man, understanding agriculture and willing to devote all his time and knowledge to the improvement of his farm, could not help creating for himself and family an enviable future and a pleasant and desirable home. As far as we are concerned, we long for the time when the settlement of our present business affairs will allow us to go and undertake the duties and work of life in that country and in those conditions.

We are at present here in Saginaw, getting ready to start and go there as soon as possible.

Yours truly,
Alexander Loiselle,
Joseph Dubean,
Edward Roy.

LIKES THE COUNTRY.

("Brown City Banner," Brown City, Sanilac Co., Mich.
March 11th, 1898.)

Through the kindness of W. E. Smith, living west of here, we are permitted to publish the following letter written by Jas. Hewer, who went from Burnside, Lapeer Co., to Edmonton, Alberta, last December, and who is a reliable authority, as he is considered an upright and truthful man. His letter in substance is as follows:—

Edmonton, Alberta, N.W.T., Jan. 30, 1898.
W. E. Smith, Brown City, Mich.

Dear Friend: I pen you a few lines, hoping they will find you well, as they leave me. After relating something of a private business matter, Mr. Smith continues: I will tell you a little about what I have seen here. The first day I was on the market a farmer came in with a load of oats. I saw him sell them for 24c. a bushel. I asked him how many bushels to the acre did he raise, and he said his crop was not very good this year; he only had from 90 to 100 bushels to the acre. I told him I thought that was pretty good. This country is as good as you read in the pamphlets, and better in my idea. I am

well satisfied. I would advise any one coming to this country to look at this little part. The Winnipeg country, is a fine place, but I like this section much better for many reasons. Fuel is scarce there. Here good coal and wood is in abundance, and not so cold by far. There has been good sleighing here since the middle of November. The streets are crowded every day with farmers. A man with a good team can make a pile of money, and horses are dear. Ponies are worth from \$25 to \$40, and good big horses are dear as well. I am glad I came when I did, as there is lots of work and good wages, and I think I will work until I have enough to buy a C. P. R. lot near town, as the free grant homesteads are some distance back. This summer the railroad will be extended farther north towards the Klondike, and people say that the land is just as good 200 miles farther north as it is here and the weather much the same. It is mild here now. They say, I think, it has only been about 10 degrees below, but no cold winds; it is steady cold, and they say you do not mind it, but don't you fool yourself, for I can tell you that if you are not dressed warm you will mind the cold. Most of the people here are warmly clad. I must admit it is a healthy country, as most all the people here have a healthy appearance, red rosy cheeks. You ask are there any saw mills here? Yes, I know of five or six mills, and a man may get a job, and he may not. The wages paid a good sawyer are from \$2.00 to \$2.50 a day. You ask about the price of horses. You can get a good team for \$120 to \$140. Ponies are selling well just now, but that will not last long. I cannot tell you much about the land, it being all covered with snow, but according to what grain I saw and what they tell me, it cannot be beaten. The country here is settling up fast. About living. Flour is \$2.40 per 100; coal oil is 50c. per gallon, but other things are a little dearer than in Michigan, but not much. People say this is the worst day this winter. It is only a few degrees below, but they say it is worse than when it is 40 below. I have seen it worse in Canada than it is here, but generally the weather is bright and dry. It is a pleasure to be out. I am well suited. The timber runs small, and is chiefly poplar, spruce and birch. As for the people, they are of many

nationalities, but the English-speaking people are, as a class, very accommodating and willing to help new comers.

Very truly,

James Hewer.

Alameda, N. W. T., May 22, 1898.

Dear Brother August: I have your letter, and am pleased to note that you are all getting along well and are enjoying good health. I would have written you before this, but before doing so, wanted to satisfy myself more fully as to this locality. I desire to say to you that I have fully determined to stay here; so have the others outside of my farm. I have more work than I can do at plastering and brick-laying, and can earn more at my trade in one day than I could in Detroit in two. I want you to sell my house, and if it only brings \$1,800, sell it, as I want to buy 200 acres adjoining my place. I can make more out of the land, ten times over, than I can by renting the house.

There is not a family in this entire locality, who have been here five years or over, but what they are in good circumstances. The weather is fine here at present.

When will father and Albert come? Let me know. Best regards from us all.

Your brother,

Herman Knebush.

1116 Halket Avenue,

Braddock, Pa., Nov. 29th, 1898.

M. V. McInnes, Esq., Room 1, Merrill Block, Detroit, Mich.

Dear Sir: Last spring I received from you a pamphlet in the Bohemian language, giving information about Western Canada, and after a while, with my friend, Mr. Andrew Takern, started on a trip through the wonderful country.

On July 6th last we started from Detroit by the C. P. R., and sped away to Winnipeg, passing through Ontario to Manitoba. We were astonished on our way through Manitoba, and I could not believe my own eyes at the sights we saw. Immense fields of wheat and everything ripe and grand. We

arrived at Winnipeg in due time and saw with amazement the surrounding country. The land is rich and good.

Winnipeg is a fine healthy town. The cattle and Canadian horses we saw there are good, strong and large, and the very best we ever saw anywhere. There are about ten Bohemian families living in the city, the men being mostly employed on the railroad.

From Winnipeg we proceeded on July 10th, by the Manitoba & Northwestern railroad, to Yorkton, in Assiniboia. This rising town has been settled for the past five years, and is already a large market centre, surrounded with immense and productive farms, and always filled with farmers with their strong teams. The market day is Saturday, when the town is overrun with farming people of all kinds with farm products, vegetables and varieties of various sorts for sale. Horses and cattle and sheep are there in abundance, and anyone with good judgment can purchase stock and the products of the farm for fair prices. This is the best place we found for Bohemian families to settle, and if they want to go to a good and profitable business, Yorkton is the place for them to go.

Should anyone want further information from me on these points, or as to any one particular place, I shall be glad to give it on request.

All the land of Western Canada, so far as I saw, is A 1. The wheat is magnificent. I saw 1,000 acres of wheat in one plot, and it was full, healthy, and first-class. The cows, pigs and sheep are all of the very best, and Bohemian people can make no mistake by settling in Northeastern Assiniboia.

We visited the town of Ebenezer, colonized by Germans, and about ten years old. It lies a few miles north of Yorkton, and is inhabited by wideawake and good farming people, all well-to-do and able to buy. A great many of well-constructed farm implements are sold in this place. In one store alone 40 mowing machines of the latest design were sold this season. There are a good many Russian and Polish people scattered about this locality, and they would like to have a compatriot or a Bohemian business man establish himself in this

district. I believe he would do well. At Yorkton there are three large hotels in full activity and succeeding well. Then they are about to build a railroad to run far down into the prairie land. So there is prosperity everywhere and good times all around.

Yours respectfully,
Rev. John Jednick.

FIFTY FAMILIES WILL SETTLE IN ALAMEDA THIS FALL.

East Detroit, Michigan, October 25th, 1897.

Mr. Gottfried Poetsel, grocer and farmer of 419 Cleveland Street, Detroit, has just returned from a tour of inspection of Western Canada, where he went two months ago, accompanied by Albert and Charles Knebush, to satisfy themselves and their friends that the country was all that it was represented to be. On being asked to state how he was satisfied with his trip, said:—

"I went up to see the country for myself and my friends in East Detroit, and found everything better than the agents told me. I went to the Alameda district, and never in my life saw such land and such crops. There is no better country for mixed farming, although wheat raising and cattle receive the most attention. All a man has to do is to start plowing up the rich, black soil at once—there are no stones or brush to be cleared away. There are about fifty families settled in the district. Mr. McEwen settled at Alameda about twelve years ago. He went to that country with less than \$100, and is now the owner of upwards of 900 acres of land, good buildings, Immigration Galley Twenty-one cmfwyp cmfwypw cattle and horses, and is worth not less than \$50,000. I took up 160 acres, so did Albert and Charles Knebush, and I am going back as soon as I can sell my house and business in Detroit. I would not stay here now if you gave me \$10,000. There are a number of my neighbors going as soon as they can get ready; altogether, there will be at least fifty families from our district who will settle in Alameda this fall and next

spring. There will soon be a large German settlement and a new town will be located. There is plenty of bush on the hills, and an abundance of coal can be had at a distance of about twenty miles, at \$1.80 a wagon load, and pile on all you can also; plenty of good building stone along the streams. Water can be had at a depth of from eight to eighteen feet. There is good fishing in the lakes and streams, and plenty of game in the woods on the hills. Farm laborers get \$1.50 per day and board; carpenters, \$2 to \$3 per day; bricklayers, \$4 per day; plasterers, 25 cents per square yard, everything found. In fact, there is good wages for any man who wants work. I would not stay here for any consideration. I want to sell my property here and will make a sacrifice, as I want to get back as soon as possible. If at any time you wish any further information, I will be glad to give it.

I may say that I found Mr. McInnes and Mr. Keller had given very truthful information, and, in fact, the treatment received from all the government agents was all that could be desired, and myself and friends tender them our hearty thanks.

(Signed.)

Gottfried Poetzel.

CAN BECOME RICH IN FIVE YEARS.

Ludington, Mich., November 1st, 1897.

M. V. McInnes, Esq., Colonization Agent, Detroit, Mich.

Dear Sir: We have just returned from the West, and were exceedingly well pleased with the country. We are going back to take up our homesteads in early spring. We received \$35 per month and board, working for farmers, and the board was the best we ever had—the beef and mutton especially were excellent. The fine flavor is owing to the fine grasses which the cattle and sheep feed upon. The people are very hospitable, and treat their hired help with much kindness.

The grain is much heavier than here, wheat being 62 lbs. to the bushel, oats 48 lbs., and barley often 55 lbs.

Any man with a good team and money enough to buy provisions and seed for six months can become rich there in five

years. Many people who arrived there five years ago with little or nothing are well off now. One man I met held his wheat from last year and was offered \$16,000 for this year's crop and what he had held over from last year, and is holding it at \$1.00 per bushel. We are going back in the spring to work for this same farmer until seeding, after which we will homestead between seeding and harvest. We think we will settle on the Manitoba and Northwestern railroad.

You can refer any one to us for this part of the country, while we are here, and we will cheerfully answer any questions which any one may wish to ask.

Yours truly,

(Signed.)

Chas. Hawley.
Joseph Dola.

COUNTRY SURPASSES ALL WE HAVE EVER SEEN.

Alameda, N. W. T., Sept. 8th, 1897.

Gentlemen: We have the honor to report back to you, after our tour of investigation made in your behalf. We desire to emphasize that all statements made by Messrs. McInnes and Kellar, regarding Alameda, are more than true. The country surpasses all that we have ever seen. It is slightly rolling, with a clear creek flowing through the district. The hills, or Moose Mountains, to the north, are dotted with beautiful little lakes, surrounded by woods. We found the farmers all busy at threshing wheat—yield is from 25 to 35 bushels to the acre. Alameda is the nearest market, fifteen miles from the centre of the district held for the Wyandotte colony. Here are elevators, churches, schools, stores, etc. The new road will run through the centre of the district, and will be in operation some time next summer. In addition to wheat, all kinds of farm products, excepting corn, are grown in large quantities. There are also some of the finest cattle we ever saw raised here. There is a cheese factory located in the district, where farmers can dispose of their milk, which nets them about 60 cents per 100 lbs. The farmers are all prosperous.

We give this vicinity the preference of all other locations, which we have formerly visited in the United States, and recommend that we, as a whole, join the Wyandotte colony.

Thanking you for the honor bestowed in selecting us to represent you, we submit this report.

(Signed.)

William Riedel,
Albert Mai,
Fred. Gottowski.

Alameda, N. W. T., August 31, 1897.

Dear Friends in Saginaw: Those desirous of securing a good and sure home will do well to take our advice and examine the land in the neighborhood of Alameda. As we know that everyone who sees this land will be agreeably surprised. Before seeing this land we were partly in doubt as to moving here, and we beg those of our friends who are desirous of securing farms, not to let this chance slip by, as the soil is of the best, and the water cannot be excelled. The finest wheat we ever saw is also raised here.

We shall return in haste, straighten out our affairs at home and move here at once.

Yours truly,
William Guttowski;
Albert Mey,
William Riedel.
(Of Saginaw.)

THEY ARE FEELING " TIP-TOP."

The Banner is in receipt of a letter from Mr. B. Clark and two sons, who went to Dauphin, Manitoba, the 9th of April last, from Brown City, which reports them having arrived there in due time, all safe and sound. They report that they like the country very much, but that the homestead land about Dauphin is mostly all taken up. They report the weather very fine. Burton and Milton Clark and Fred Manns, who accompanied them, have all applied for homesteads on the Swan

River Valley about 40 miles from Dauphin. Mr. Clark will buy a farm 7 miles from Dauphin, as a speculation investment, and will sell it in a short time and make a nice little sum. A new railroad is to go right by the places the boys have homesteaded, this summer. They say that the country is settling very fast. The boys say they have been out fishing several times, having splendid luck, as the streams there abound with fine fish. Other game they say is very plentiful in the wooded portions. The boys say to tell the Brown City people they are feeling tip-top, never felt better, like the place and intend putting up shanties soon.—Brown City Mich., Banner, May 20th.

Sand Beach, Mich., November 1, 1898.
M. V. McInnes, Esq., Chief Colonization Agent,
Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Sir: As I promised, I will endeavor to give you an account of my trip west and my impressions of that country.

The first thing that must impress every person visiting that country is its great extent. It is certainly a very large country. The next thing I have to say is that it is a grand country for the farmers, as shown by the splendid crops and the cheapness at which the grain can be raised and marketed. Every place I visited was a surprise to me, and the farmers seemed to be contented and prosperous, as evidenced by their buildings and surroundings.

Around Neepawa and Gladstone I found the crops magnificent, and the farmers, many of whom have been some years in that district, are well supplied with stock, farming implements and comfortable buildings. Around Yorkton the crops are good, equal to any I have seen.

The country around Edmonton cannot be excelled for mixed farming. Small fruits, such as currants, gooseberries, raspberries, etc., grow here in abundance. Dry goods and clothing can be bought as cheap and as good in this country as in Michigan. Altogether, the Canadian West is a country of great possibilities and must be seen to be fully appreciated.

I would say, in conclusion, to any one contemplating to move from Michigan or any other State, go and see the Canadian

West for yourself, and you will be sure to do like all who have gone there—that is, take up land and stay there. I will venture a prophecy, that the population of that country will double in the next two or three years.

Accept my thanks for your promptness in furnishing useful information and answering my letters promptly. I am,
Faithfully yours,

(Signed.)

T. H. Wade.

ANYONE AT ALL INDUSTRIOUS HAS NO NEED
TO BE IDLE.

Winnipeg, Sept. 16th, 1897.
Mr. M. V. McInnes, Canadian Government Agent,
Detroit, Michigan.

Sir: I have your esteemed favor of the 12th, and am glad to hear that there are so many in the neighborhood of Wyandotte and surrounding country, who have decided to make the Canadian West their future home. I hope that their experience will be such as mine has been, and of this I have not the least doubt. When the boat I worked on, on Lake Manitoba, stopped for the winter, I immediately went to work for the C. P. R. Co. in their repair shop, and am earning \$3.00 per day. I am exceedingly well pleased with my place; also with the surrounding ones. I live within two minutes walk from the shop, in a good substantial stone house, and pay only \$5.00 per month rent. I hope our friend Brehm will make up his mind to come out this way this fall, as I know he will get along, and he can do, as I will—stay here over winter and go out on his land in the spring. Anyone, at all industrious, has no need to be idle here. Of course, here, as in all other places, there are those who would rather stand on street corners than work, and they are naturally idle, but those wishing work can have all they wish to do at good pay.

Will you kindly subscribe for me, for either the Detroit Albion Post, or Family Letter. The latter, I think, would be preferable. We have plenty of newspapers here, but they give very little information as to the doings in and about

Detroit, where most of my friends live. Therefore, I want a paper from that district.

I must again express my thanks to you for inducing me to come out here, and if my health and that of my family holds out, in a few years, we will be in fairly well circumstances.

Remember me to all my friends, and let me hear from you soon. With kindest regards to all, I am,

Yours truly,

Henry Strivowski.

Queen's Hotel, Edmonton, Alberta,
September 26th, 1897.

Rev. A. C. Kay, East Tawas, Mich.

Dear Friend: I returned last night from Ft. Saskatchewan, where I prospected for gold, and found some in the what is called "Black Sand." I have a sample in a vial. There is gold along the river, but not in very large quantities. A worker along the margin can probably average about \$1.50 per day. If I can use the phrase, there are oceans of oats and wheat in the shock yet. The weather is fine, with the mercury at 80 in the shade, which is too warm for comfort. Toward evening it is cooler.

Coal is abundant, and only costs \$2.50 per ton. From the appearance of the situation, with only about four feet for a six-footer to stand in, I concluded I would take my chance (if for choice) to try my luck on the Saskatchewan Margin for gold. I like the country, the fare, the means of livelihood, and the general appearance of the visited places and their surroundings. I never met with more friendly and hospitable people in all my life. Hotel keepers are reasonable, helpful and very accommodating. All try to make one feel as if they were at home. The manager of the land office in this territory makes people feel perfectly at home in their several districts. They pay the greatest of attention to immigrants, and expedite their business to the full satisfaction of all home-seekers.

I think I am improving in health, although I have had no rest since I left home. I have not averaged over three hours

sleep each night, except the night I was on Lake Superior. I hardly think I could stand the fatigue in Michigan. I visited a genial Scotchman, Donald Ross, who has a garden in the valley below, and who, years ago, kept a stopping place for travellers. In his garden he had raised turnips 20 pounds weight; beets, eight pounds; carrots, asparagus, cauliflower, all kinds of roots, very large. Strawberries, pumpkins, squash, etc., all very fine; none better anywhere. As far as my own interest is concerned, and that of my family, I have seen and know enough to satisfy us; yet, my friends who may have considerable confidence in me and my judgment, would probably be better satisfied with a greater search of the various resources of this country, whereby they could make a better selection, providing they should move out here. I have already seen and inspected territory enough to insure a home for every man and woman in (well, I will not say what I know will limit, by saying) Iosco County, and each one have, if they choose, a race track of their own. I travel considerable on horse-back. The horses are very swift on foot. There are splendid roads and trails; buffalo trails, etc. They have not charged me for a saddle horse yet; nor for a buggy, like horse-back, as I can hunt this way when exploring.

Yours affectionately,
A. J. Urquhart.

Winnipeg, Man., Sept. 8th, 1897.

Mrs. L. Fry, Detroit, Mich.

Dear Madam: I am safe and sound in Winnipeg, and had a very nice journey. This is the only country for a young man. There is no person around Winnipeg out of work, as the signs are out on the sidewalk when men are wanted. No hard times here, every thing is booming—that is what I have seen already, and I have only been here two days. Just estimate 2,000,000 bushels of wheat here, and it all passes through Winnipeg. The city will soon be all paved with the new pavement. I am staying here a week, to see the city, and get board where I am at \$3.00 per week.

All kinds of girls are scarce, domestics and all others, and I

enclose you the ads. out of to-day's paper, showing those who want girls; it speaks for itself. If you can do anything for those poor people of Detroit, to get them to go where they will never be in want, you will be doing a grand work, and, if I can do anything I will be willing to do so.

There is lots of fun in this country, even if it is cold in winter. You get good wages here and can afford to buy all the luxuries that can be bought with money. Young ladies here do not use powder to keep their complexion, but every girl has a rosy-cheek-on-account-of-the-pure-air.—It is quite a religious place, a large number of churches of all denominations. Try and get some of these people to move out and get some good place where they can get more than a mere living. Winnipeg is not the only place out here that needs domestics and other help. I am delighted with Winnipeg, with its fine broad streets and neat buildings.

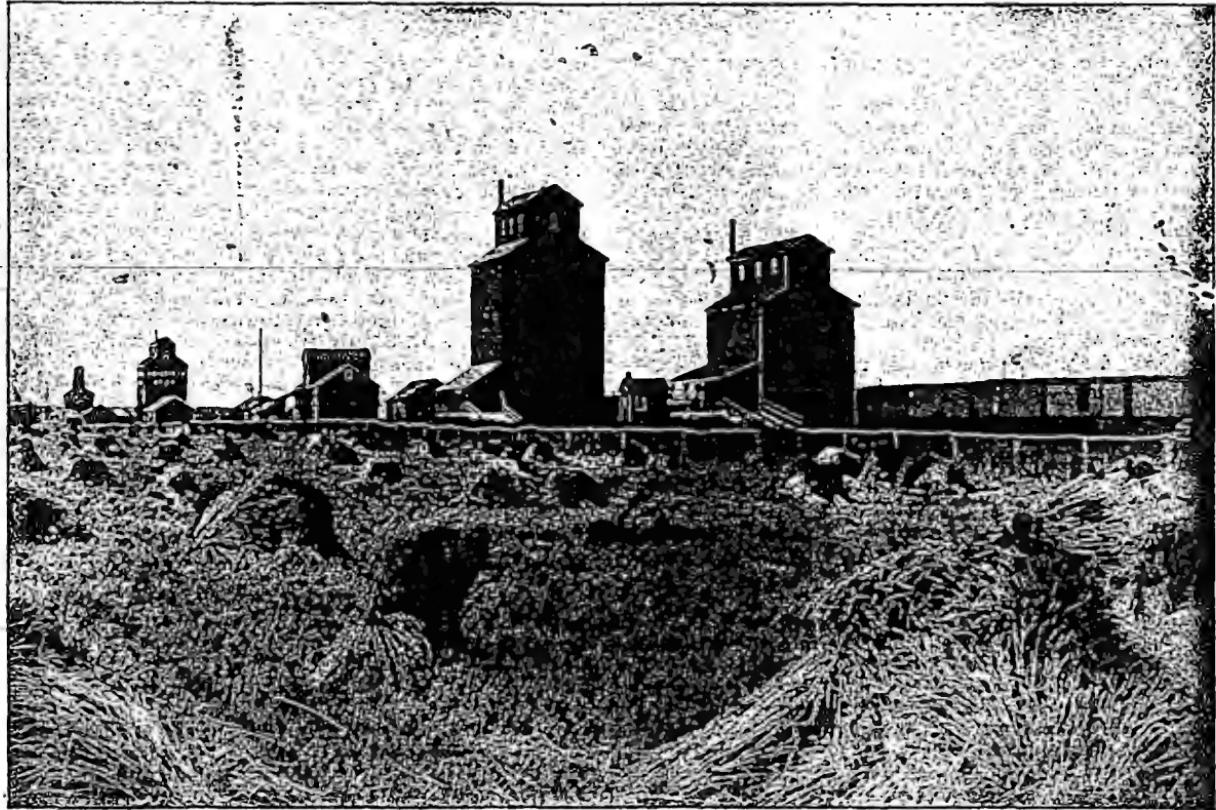
John V. Morrison,

358 Alexander Avenue, Winnipeg, Man.
P. S.—Servant girls never offered less than \$10.00 per month, and from that to \$25.00 and \$30.00. J. V. M.

Edmonton, Alberta, 31st August, 1898.
William F. McCready, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Dear Sir: We, the undersigned delegates, who have been looking over the farming district of Northern Alberta, beg to state that we have found the soil very productive, as is attested by the magnificent crops of wheat and barley to be seen on every hand. In a drive of forty miles in a roundabout country trip, from Edmonton to Fort Saskatchewan, and return, on the south side of the river, we really failed to see a poor piece of grain, while bountiful crops were to be seen on every side.

We also took a drive out to St. Albert and vicinity, and splendid crops were in evidence everywhere, the picture could hardly be overdrawn. From what we have seen in over two days' drive, we have come to the conclusion that the country



GRAIN SHIPPING STATION IN WESTERN CANADA

far exceeds, in every iota, what is claimed for it in the Government and C. P. R. pamphlets.

We are now satisfied to go back and sell out and make Alberta our future home and go into mixed farming. Cattle, hogs and sheep do well, and bring a good price. We are more than pleased with the richness of the country, and strongly recommend our friends and acquaintances to come to Alberta.

(Signed.)

P. E. Barley, Michigan.
J. Burridge, Iowa.

Balmoral Hotel,
Virden, Man., 5th September, 1898.

1c the Board of Trade.

Dear Sirs: I am very much obliged to you for driving me through the country for one day.

I am very much pleased with the country and intend to take up a half section and induce my friends to do likewise.

Yours very truly,
(Signed.) K. Sprecht.

CREAMERIES ARE A BOON.

The editor of the Brown City (Mich.) Banner made a trip through Western Canada last summer, and writes in his paper as follows:—

An industry which is proving very advantageous to the settlers of North Alberta, and is truly a boon to the farmers, is the establishment of creameries by the government at regular distances apart. The plan is as follows: The farmers of the community club together and erect a building suitable for the purpose, which, in well settled sections, is a nice looking and substantial building, but in more sparsely settled communities the building is a mere shell roughly constructed, merely serving as a shelter and protection for the machinery. The government then furnishes the entire plant, puts it in and operates it without direct cost to the farmer. From the sale of the butter the government retains 5 cents per pound, the balance

going to the farmer. This is continued for three years, when the government turns over the plant and business to the farmers, giving them a clear title of it. Thus these creameries are put in at a minimum cost to the farmer and paid for in a way that he least feels it. When we were there butter was selling at 21c. and 22c. per pound. The government was trying this scheme as an experiment, and we were informed by the farmers operating the plants that it was likely to prove very satisfactory. Cheese factories were being established, too, along the railroad, and much of the freight loaded on the cars on our return trip consisted of butter and cheese, as it was the best season for milk. The product found a ready market in the mining and lumbering towns and districts beyond the Rockies, through the British Columbia country, where it was, we were told, difficult to supply the demand.

A gardener informed us that he cleared from \$800 to \$1,000 annually from the sale of roots, vegetables, flowers and plants. We here state that we never before saw such a growth of vegetables at that season of the year. He said he raised 750 bushels of onions to the acre. Beets were growing as large as your arm, turnips the size of one's head, and cabbages as large as a patent pail. Following are prices Mr. Ross gave us as receiving for his produce: Beets, 50c. per bushel; carrots, 40c.; onions, \$1.25; turnips, \$5 per ton; cabbage, 4c. each; green corn, 25c. per doz.; tomatoes, \$1.50 per bushel; potatoes, 25c. to 30c.; cauliflower, \$1.00 per doz.; cucumbers, 15c. per doz.; strawberries, 25c. per box; squash, 4c. per pound, and other produce in proportion.

To Persons in Nebraska Who Contemplate Making a Move:

I have lived in Nebraska for the last 31 years, farming and stock raising being my occupation. My attention was drawn to the Canadian Northwest by a pamphlet received from Mr. Bennett, the Canadian Government immigration agent in Omaha, and as there are a large number of my friends living in Nebraska, who are unable, owing to the high price of land, excessive taxation, poor crops and hard times, generally low prices, to make or acquire home for themselves or their fam-

ilies, I was induced by my friends to visit the Canadian Northwest, and particularly Alberta, for the purpose of satisfying myself and my friends whether the reports made by the Government agents, railway representatives and also distributed in the pamphlets were correct and could be thoroughly relied upon. I visited Winnipeg en route to Edmonton on or about the 22nd of February. I travelled straight through to Calgary, where I left the main line of the C. P. R. Co. and boarded the north-bound train of the Calgary & Edmonton railway. The first place I left the train was at Lacombe, where I remained from Friday evening to Monday. I visited Friend Bagley, who formerly lived in Nebraska, and who was kind and showed me as much of that locality as he could in the short time I was there. I was much impressed by what I saw in the Lacombe district, and the settlers appear to me to be a very prosperous and contented lot of people. Mr. Bagley showed me two lots of thoroughbred cattle, which I considered first-class.

I also learned while there that the most successful grain-growers were those who had been careful in the selection of their farms and who had selected high and dry lands for grain fields. Being a cattle raiser nearly all my life, I never pass a bunch of cattle, without noticing in what condition they are, and I was therefore much struck with the fine condition of the cattle in the Lacombe district and throughout Alberta wherever I saw them.

The next place I stopped off was Edmonton, and after looking around close to town for a few days, and conversing with farmers and settlers in that locality, I came to the conclusion that to secure a suitable location for stock raising, it would be necessary to go some considerable distance east, so as to get well out of the thickly settled localities.

Shortly after my arrival in Edmonton I met Mr. Eugene Clark, of Beaver Hills, Pa., who moved from Nebraska to Alberta about three and a half years ago. He being acquainted about the country with the best locations, he took me home to his farm, which is located about eight miles south of Fort Saskatchewan, a very fine locality. There is a school

house and creamery skimming station in his neighborhood, and at Fort Saskatchewan a first-class roller flour mill. They had not received returns from the creamery, showing amount of butter sold, manufactured, etc., but from what I could learn everybody is well satisfied at the way this creamery, and those in other districts I visited, were operated by the government. Mr. Clark has applied for a patent to his 160 acres. He considers that he has done exceedingly well by making the move he did. I met Mr. Doze, the postmaster at Beaver Hills, and stopped a night at his place. He has a very fine farm and a large number of live stock, including horses, cattle, sheep and pigs. From Beaver Hills I travelled to Mr. Lovering's farm, about 25 or 30 miles southeast, mostly east, and it was going there I passed through what I would consider a timber country, but which has not a very attractive appearance owing to a large fire which burned through the district a couple of years ago. The land has the appearance of being very rich, but as I was looking for a grazing location, I did not pay much attention to the soil, although, judging from the quantity and quality of the straw and the way the land lies, it must be very rich.

After thoroughly examining the Beaver Lake district, I have decided to move there; in fact, I have already taken up a homestead, made a purchase of stock and written to my family and some of my relations to come. I would not advise any one to locate near me who intends to make his specialty grain growing, as the distance is too far from the market, which is at South Edmonton, where there are five large elevators, a big flour mill and a very big oatmeal mill. They were paying 8 cents for oats and 65 cents for good quality of wheat when I was there. Between Edmonton and Fort Saskatchewan, along the south side of the Saskatchewan river, is as fine a general farming country as I ever saw. It is well settled. All homesteads are taken up, but some good railroad lands are yet left. It lies beautifully, and is of a gently rolling nature. Black loam soil. Where we stopped for dinner, when returning to Edmonton, we were told that five pieces of railroad land had been sold within a few days to parties who intended go-

ing into immediate occupation and making improvements.

I have written several letters home since reaching Alberta, and my advice to all has been to come and see the country before deciding to move, as then, in the event of their anticipations not being fully realized, it is not too late or expensive to return home, as it would be if they sold out everything in Nebraska. The cost of visiting Alberta is not a very serious matter, as the Canadian Pacific Railway Company offer a cent a mile to bona fide settlers or land-hunters, but for full particulars as to how to secure this low rate, parties should write to Mr. M. V. Bennett, 801 New York Life Building, Omaha, Nebraska, from whom I got the reduced rates.

Yours truly,

L. L. Darling,

Delegate from Lyons, Neb.

Present address, Lacombe, Alberta, Canada.

Feb. 10, 1898.

AN INTERESTING LETTER FROM REV. J. CARSWELL.

The Advantages and Drawbacks of the West.

(Burks Falls Arrow and Huntsville Enterprise, Sept. 9, 1898.)
To the Editor of The Arrow and Enterprise.

Dear Sir: When I left Manitoba on the 24th inst., the harvest was about two-thirds over, and there had been no frost to do any injury, except in low lying districts, and even there there seemed to be great diversity of opinion as to the amount of injury done, many holding that the frost was too light to do any harm. They cut from ten to twenty acres a day. I heard of a farmer who had two machines at work, and these cut thirty acres a day, or fifteen acres each. There are two kinds of threshing, designated as stack threshing and stook threshing, the former being usually later in the season than the other. Stook threshing is done just as soon as the grain is dry and a machines can be obtained. The machine is stationed alongside of one of the barns or granaries, or in some central

position in the field and the grain is drawn in to it, some ten or twelve teams being required for that purpose. The fuel consumed is straw, a little wood being required to start with, or, in the absence of that, sheaves of grain are used. The grain seems to come from the machine sufficiently clean for the market, and if near enough elevators, it is taken at once to them and there stored until a sale is effected. Where this cannot be done, it is stored in barns and granaries, the grain being deposited into them by elevators, with which machines are furnished. The usual cost of threshing is seven cents a bag and boarding the men.

In closing, I might briefly summarize the advantages of forded and drawbacks to be met with in that new country. Let us take the advantages first:

1. A healthy climate, cool nights and refreshing breezes during the day.

2. Better prospects for getting on in the world, especially for young people, tradesmen, farmers on rented farms or on poor land.

3. A rich, almost inexhaustible soil, producing good crops year after year, with little cultivation.

4. Cheap land, homesteads, a little back from the lines of railway, and land to be bought at from \$2 to \$5 an acre.

5. Possibility of putting in a crop at once without having to wait till the land is cleared. By going out immediately after harvest considerable breaking up can be done and land prepared for sowing in the early spring.

6. Cash for all products of the farm, and so money in circulation everywhere; no cents there.

7. Level roads in summer and no drifts in winter.

Among the drawbacks may be mentioned:

1. Cost of building material. Lumber of all kinds is very high, but in some places stone and brick can be obtained at reasonable rates.

2. Expense of a farmer's outfit; so much machinery is required, much of what is used in the east being found useless.

3. Danger of frost and hail. By these two scourges the hopes of the husbandman have often been blasted in the past.

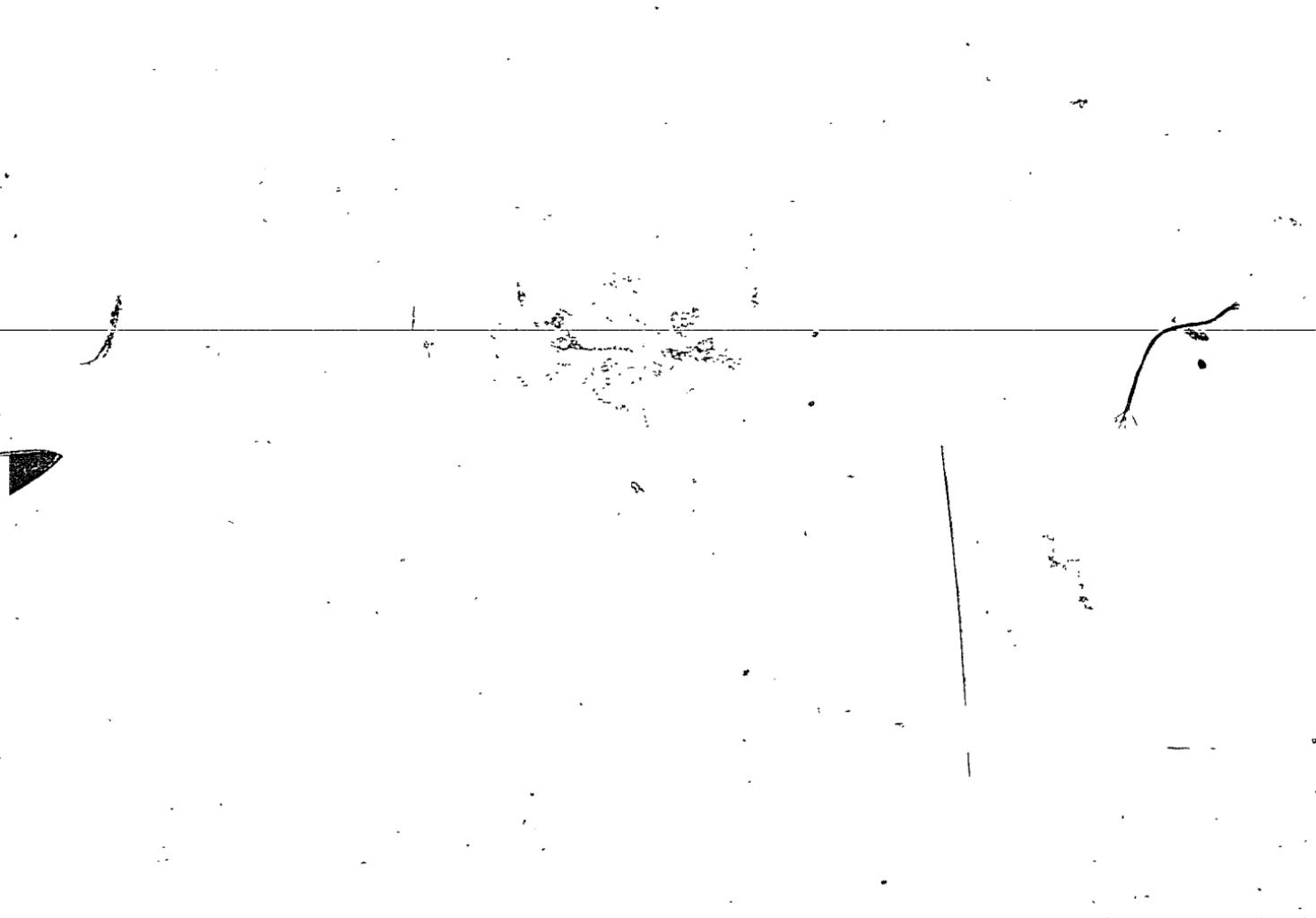
4 Scarcity and dearness of fuel. In some localities wood has to be drawn a great distance.

5. The difficulty of getting good water in some localities. In low districts it strongly tastes of alkali, and is not at all pleasant.

6. The severity of the winter and the danger arising from blizzards. Still, last winter was just as pleasant as we had in Ontario, and the people out there say they do not feel the cold any more than did here. But I have already trespassed too much on your space, and so I bid your readers good-bye.

J. Carswell.





SETTLERS' EXPERIENCES

Duhamel, Alberta, Canada, Sept. 6th, 1898.

I came to this part of the country last April with a wife and four children, had no money, went to work at once at carpenter work and earned enough to put in a small crop, which consists of seventeen acres of oats and five acres of wheat, all of which has done well. I worked in the States at carpenter work for ten or twelve years. Living cost so much there I could save no money. I wouldn't take \$5 a day and a life job to go back to the States again. I'm convinced that this is the country for a poor man with a family to make a home for his old age, where he has a good government to live under, which gives him 160 acres of the best land that is in this world. Had I come to this country ten years ago I would be well-to-do-to-day. Anybody wishing to come to this country can fully rely on Mr. C. O. Swanson. We found him very reliable, truthful and trustworthy in every respect. His address is, Mr. C. O. Swanson, Canadian Northwest Colonization Agent, Department of the Interior, Ottawa, Ont., Canada.

Yours truly,

Robt. M. Mutch.

Alberta, Canada, July 31, 1898

Dear Brother: We are about 40 miles on our way to Edmonton, having arrived at Lesser Slave Lake on the 23rd of June, and it is the prettiest place I ever saw. From where I sit in front of the cook's tent I can count 30 tepees belonging to half-breeds. With the lake so calm, I can't compare it to anything but a sea of oil; and the wild hay far surpasses anything I have ever seen before, and also potato tops a way ahead of anything in the older countries. We saw wheat and oats that looked well. We are working on our way back, and expect to reach Edmonton on the 27th, perhaps later. We are putting in bridges and such like. Mr. Chalmers is at the lake yet. We expect him every day on his way to Edmonton.

I am going to send this letter with him.

I will now give you a short history since we came to Alberta. When we arrived at Edmonton last spring there was quite a delegation of us. Mr. Spears and Mr. Sutton gave us all their attention and spared no pains to show us the country. They hired four teams and took us through the settled part of the country first, and every one we called on had enough grain to last him for a year, and most of them, like ourselves, poor, having had to leave their families behind until they earned enough here to send for them. I didn't go into the unsettled country, for I had to hunt up a job; but Clyde did, and says he likes it well, and that everything stated in the pamphlets is true. This is where we are going to locate, about 40 miles east of Wetaskiwin. Now, Hamie, hurry up the girls, and have them meet us at Edmonton not later than September 1st. We would like to have them with us when we go to locate. Will you let Mr. Bennett see this letter, so he may know how we were treated? If any other person wants to take up a claim, let him send us the papers and we will do the business. You need not tell anybody, but we have \$110 each, and we are going to blow it in on a team of horses. Now good-bye, and hurry the girls along.

From your brother,
George McClellan Lackey.

South Edmonton P. O., Alta., N. W. T.,
November 9th, 1898.

Thomas Bennett, Esq., South Edmonton, Alta.; N.W.T.

Dear Sir: I came from County Fermanagh, Ireland, about three miles west of Enniskillen (Letterbreen.) Amount of capital when I arrived—I had \$3 when I first arrived in Manitoba, and when I arrived here I had \$1. No experience in farming in this country. I like the farming here best. Our land is rich enough to do without manure, and that is a big

saving on labor. I may say I had no experience whatever in managing a farm; green as a cabbage head when I arrived here. Well, Sir, to the best of my opinion, for a poor man to make a start in life, I don't think there is any comparison at all between this country and the country I left. Well, Sir, I got to rooting as fast as I could, and have kept a rooting ever since, and now I have got a home that is fit for any man (farmer.) My capital when I came was all in my arms and head, and to put a fair value on my farm stock, implements, roots, grain, etc., now, would be about \$8,000.

On the whole the country suits me well, and I am well satisfied.

(Signed.)

Yours truly, Thomas Daly.

W. F. McCreary, Commissioner of Immigration.

I came to this country in 1893 from Taftville, Kentucky, U. S., took up a homestead in Stony Plain, township 52, range 27. Started with \$500. The third year I sold \$700 worth of cattle; fourth I sold \$650 worth of grain; this year I have 4,000 bushels of grain, 10 head of cattle, 8 horses, 60 pigs, and all the implements required on a farm. I have a good house, granary, stable, etc., and I would not sell my place for \$4,000. I had no experience at all in farming before I came here. I am very well satisfied with my new home, and pleased over our healthy and beautiful climate, and advise any man with a little energy to come; so much the better if he has a little capital.

(Signed.)

M. Bileau,
Stony Plain P. O., N. W. T.

St. Albert, Alberta, Nov. 1st, 1898.
W. F. McCreary, Esq., Commissioner of Immigration,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

I came here from Redfield, South Dakota, four years ago. Worked out for two years, and then took up land and started for myself with about \$300. I cropped 25 acres the first year, and threshed 1,000 bushels of grain. I put in 30 acres this

spring and got 1,500 bushels. I have five horses and four head of cattle, wagon, plow, harrows and mower, a house 16x20, good stable and granary. I would not sell my place for \$1,000 cash. I was brought up on a farm and like farming, especially when a person can reap such good returns as he does in this country in mixed farming, and a person don't need to work as hard here as he must do in the States in order to get along. My father is also living here. He arrived here one year later, and has done well and would not go back to the States on any account.

I would recommend my friends to come to this country. I am located in township 54, range 25, section 18.

(Signed.)

Frank Iseke.

Edmonton, November 10th, 1898.

To the Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg.

Dear Sir: We came here from Aberdeen, South Dakota, in the spring of 1895, and rented a farm on the Sturgeon river, and after our first crop here we were more than convinced that the statements made in the Government pamphlets were not exaggerated, for we had 53 bushels of wheat to the acre—7,000 bushels of grain altogether. This year our wheat averaged 50 bushels to the acre—5,000 in all. We have raised more grain since we came here than we did in thirteen years where we came from, and only had half the ground to work; no country can equal this. We are more than \$2,000 ahead in money, besides this year's crop, since coming here. In the States we were going behind every year. In this country we have no hot winds or blizzards to contend with like they have in Dakota where we came from. The winters are beautiful and healthy and the climate is extra fine, especially for people with weak lungs. Fuel is here in abundance, which is an expensive article in Aberdeen, Dakota, and a great drawback to farmers there. We have no taxes to pay, except a small school tax, which was a great surprise to use. Where we left everything was taxed, even the clothes on our back. A man that does not succeed in this country it is his own fault, for the soil is so rich that everything that is put in the ground

to grow will grow, if it is only half attended to. A friend of ours from the same place, a Mr. Lewis, had over 1,000 bushels of oats off ten acres this year. We have bought a nice improved farm, paid \$800 cash for it, and there are a number of other good improved farms for sale reasonable.

We can cheerfully recommend our friends to come to this country; and they will never regret it. We are only sorry that we did not come five years sooner.

(Signed.)

Neil McLean,
Hector McLean,
Located 12 miles south of Edmonton.

Rosenthal, Alberta, Nov. 5th, 1898.

I came to this country in April, 1893, from South Dakota, without one dollar; worked with farmers the first two years. With the first \$10.00 that I earned I took up a homestead in township 52, range 1 west of the 5th. I have 40 acres under cultivation. Sold \$200 worth of wheat last year; will have more to sell this year. My wheat averaged 30 bushels to the acre. I have implements and stock to the value of \$600, all paid for. A farmer will be more successful by going into mixed farming. Will recommend any person who desires to better themselves to come to this country, even if he is poor, if he is only willing and able to work.

(Signed.)

Fred. Schimf.

Edmonton, Alberta. N.W.T. Nov. 25, 1898.

Mr. Crawford.

Dear Sir and Friend: It is quite a while since I heard from you. We have had real nice weather all fall; until about a week ago. Since that it has been cold and dry. Very little snow yet; not enough for sleighing, but the roads are in fine shape for the wagon; none of the Kansas mud here. There was a fall of snow Oct. 18th, about 8 inches; it stayed on about a week. We had the threshers at the time; we were off one day with the snow. It took us six days to do our threshing. I had almost 9,000 bushels of grain, 5,540 of wheat, 376 of barley, and the rest was oats; about 250 of potatoes.

Had it not been for the wild oats on this farm, I would have had eleven or twelve thousand bushels, but they kept the tame ones and the wheat back, and then fell off on the ground as soon as they got ripe, but, nevertheless, I have made a good crop. If it wasn't so far from Winnipeg and the market, I would be all right. I would like to see the Dauphin and Swan River districts before I settle. We had a Missouri delegate for supper some time ago. He was well pleased with the country.

What success are you having in getting back the overcharge on my car? Hope you may be able to get it for me.

There is always some one wanting to know how I like this country, etc. My brother intends coming as soon as he can sell out in Kansas. There are two of my brothers-in-law with me now from Ontario. I don't see anything to hinder a man to make money in this country.

I don't believe it would hurt the C. P. R. to pay me back the overcharge, for they will make far more than that out of me carrying my crop to market this year.

This is a beautiful morning.

Yours as ever,

David Crozier.

Let me hear from you soon.

Edmonton, Alberta, November 30th, 1898.
To the Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg, Man.

Dear Sir: I came to this country from Nebraska in the spring of 1894 without one dollar, but plenty of push. I worked with farmers all that year, and in 1895 sent enough money to bring my family. I took up my homestead in township 55, range 24: kept on working out until I had sufficient to start for myself, and I must say that I have done remarkably well, for I now have five horses, eight head of cattle, some hogs and poultry, and implements to the value of \$300. and good log house and stables. This year I had 1,500 bushels of grain off 40 acres. I think this is the best country I ever saw for a poor man to get rich in, if he is only willing to work. I am speaking from experience, for I had to work hard since I came here and have received good results. The

climate throughout the year is extra good. I can honestly recommend any one to come if he is a worker or has means to pay some one to do the work.

(Signed.)

C. L. True,
Sturgeon River, Edmonton, Alta.

WILLIAM HUNSPERGER HEARD FROM.

Seven Years in Alberta, N. W. T.—Is Healthy, Happy and Likes the Country Well.

Didsbury, Alberta, Nov. 28, 1898.

To the Brown City Banner.

Dear Editor: I will enclose one dollar for the Banner, which is a welcome paper to us, and I will also let you know that we are all in good health. We have very nice weather now. We had it very cold from the 18th to the 21st; the thermometer was down to 18 degrees below zero, but now we have spring weather, hardly any frost. The crops were good this year. They didn't turn out so much to the acre, but a good sample. We threshed a little over 1,000 bushels from 40 acres; 642 bushels of oats, 110 bushels of wheat; 269 bushels of barley, and five bushels of peas. Now, I will give you the price of grain: Wheat, 55c.; oats, 25c.; barley, 40c. Our oats weighed 42 lbs. to the bushel. Beef, dressed, 5c. to 6c. per lb.; pork, dressed, 6c. per lb. It may be that some people think that that isn't a very high price, but the cattle weigh more in this country than in the east. I dressed a heifer last fall that weighed 619 lbs., and we have a two-year-old steer now that will dress about 700 lbs. Butter, 25c. per lb.; eggs, 30c. per dozen. This is the Calgary market. Chickens, 12c. per lb.; turkeys, 15c. per lb.; geese, 13c. per lb. We have 10 horses, 35 head of cattle and 8 pigs. We butchered three hogs—one dressed 247 lbs., one 187 lbs., and one 163 lbs. It pays better to feed the wheat to the pigs at 55c. than to sell it. Beef was 4c. per lb. last spring, live weight, and the buyers are offering now 3½c. per lb. for spring market. So the ranchers expect the beef will be 4c. per lb. till spring. Horses sell from \$5 up to \$75. I will say this much

that I am not sick of this country yet. We are all doing well. It is a very good chance here for a family to get a home for themselves without very much money, and a man don't need to work all his lifetime to make a farm here like they do in a bush country. I saw men starting in the east in a bush 20 years, yes, 30 years ago, and worked till they were old men and women, and now their children are on the old homestead, and they will have to work hard yet to get the farms in good shape. We can make a farm in good shape in five or six years in this country. People are all doing well in this country—that is, those that will work. Of course, there are people that come to this country, thinking that they can make money without working, but that is not the case. I hope some of my old friends and neighbors in Michigan will make up their minds to come out in this country. We were very glad to see Mr. G. Rickman and Floyd Dean landing last Monday, the 21st. They say they enjoyed the journey very well, and also like the country so far.

Kind regards to yourself and family and to all my old Michigan friends and neighbors.

Very truly,

WM. HUNSPERGER.

Edmonton, Alta., November 28th, 1898.
To the Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg, Man.

Dear Sir: I came to Alberta from Spokane, Washington, in the spring of 1894. Had five dollars when I arrived. I took up a homestead in township 55, range 25, worked out with farmers and got them to do my improvements as part payment. In 1897 I had fifteen acres in crop and secured 680 bushels of No. 1 milling oats. This year I have 1,000 bushels of wheat and oats, all first-class, off 25 acres. I have 40 acres ready for next year. My stock consists of one team of horses, two cows, ten pigs; also some poultry. Good house, stable and well. My homestead is all fenced with wire fencing. I also have a wagon, plow and harrows all paid for. I would not sell my place to-day for \$1,000. I am more than pleased with the country, and will never leave it for any other place. The climate is the best I ever experienced. I have a

nice lot of apple trees which I raised from the seed, and they are all doing well. I will recommend anyone who wants to better his position to come to this country, and I am satisfied that he will never regret it.

(Signed.)

L. T. Rebolt,
Rivre Qui Barre, Alberta.

I came to the Edmonton district in May, 1893, with enough money to purchase a farm of 160 acres, four miles from Edmonton, a team of horses, a cow, all necessary farm implements and provisions for a year. Was a bachelor for three years. At present time I have 320 acres of land, 160 of which are fenced. Had this year 27 acres of wheat, which yielded 1,000 bushels; 15 acres of oats, which yielded 750 bushels; 6 acres of oats for hay, which yielded 15 tons. Broke 30 acres of new land this year. Have six head of horses and 14 head of cattle. There is a good spring on the farm sufficient for all the stock. I have a very high opinion of the Edmonton district and its capabilities, both for mixed farming and ranching, and, in comparison of the value, I do not think cheaper land is to be had in Canada.

Wheat should be in by 30th April, oats by 10th of May, and barley by June 1st, which enables all grain to be cut before danger from frost.

(Signed)

Nov. 17th., 1898.

Wm. F. Hawkins,
South Edmonton.

Lacombe, Alberta, Nov. 25th, 1898.

To the Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg.

Sir: I came from Cascia County, Idaho, U. S. A., to Southern Alberta, and moved from there here in July, 1894. I brought here thirty-four head of cattle, fifteen horses, two wagons, two sets of harness and \$150 in cash. I homesteaded S. E. quarter 28, 40, 26, west of the 4th meridian; also purchased a quarter section of C. P. R. land. Have been farming more or less, nearly all my life, and I am convinced that you can raise crops 40 per cent. cheaper here than where I came from. My capital at present, counting everything, is

about \$5,000. The yield of my grain, all round, in 1897, was 60 bushels per acre; this year, 1898, yield of wheat per acre, 37½ bushels, oats, 50 bushels, and barley 35 bushels; potatoes, 400 bushels per acre. I consider this is a much better country for a man than where I came from, providing he is industrious and has a small capital.

Have a wife and six children; two only able to work on the farm. You get a free homestead here, and C. P. R. land is cheap and the terms are easy. I have now made my seventh payment, and am much pleased with my purchase, as the land has much more than paid for itself. School law here is decidedly ahead of where I came from, and there are schools wherever there are settlers.

I remain,

Yours truly,

(Signed.)

J. A. Tolman.

(Translation.)

Edmonton, Atla., _____, 1898.

Commissioner of Immigration.

I, William Muller, lived for 12 years in South Dakota; brought with me \$2,500 to South Dakota, and lost nearly everything that I had, so that I saw that I could do nothing in South Dakota, and I left the country with \$800 and went to Canada, and have now been here 4 years and I have bought three quarter sections of land, and am well satisfied, as I made each year from \$1,000 to \$1,200, and I believe I could not have found a better country nor climate, no matter where.

Respectfully,

(Signed.) William Muller.

(Translation.)

Stony Plain, December 26, 1898.

Commissioner of Immigration.

I, Heinrich Schellenberger, came in 1892, from Austria, Province of Galicia, to Canada, took up a farm at once, was possessed of small means, had only \$100, but I thought of the proverb, "Pray and work with soul and body," and that does everything and makes work easy. To-day I have three

farms, and all the machinery necessary for a farmer. I harvested this year 2,550 bushels of grain, of which: Wheat, 1,716 bushels; oats, 1,000 bushels; barley, 134 bushels, and potatoes 200 bushels. Further, horses 7; cows, 4; young cattle, 5; swine, 43. Further, wagons, 2; plows, 2; harrow, 1; sleighs, 1. I have never regretted that I emigrated to Canada, as I could never do so well in the old home. I wish everybody who likes emigrating to come to Canada, a hearty greeting to all who may read this letter.

(Signed.) H. Schellenberger.
Spruce Grove P. O., Alta.

(Translation.)

Josephsberg, 14th December, 1898.

Dear Relations: I came during the year 1889 here, that is, to Canada. The journey for myself, wife, four children, as well as my father, mother, brother and sister, did not cost me a great deal via New York. When I reached Edmonton I had two pair oxen, two cows and two calves, wagon, plow and harrow. My homestead is situated six miles east of Fort Saskatchewan. I have 140 acres under cultivation, eight horses, 30 head of cattle; also all necessary farming implements; have harvested this year 2,200 bushels of wheat. Water, pasture and timber are plentiful in our district, and I advise every industrious person to come here to Alberta. My native place is Josephsberg, Austrian Galicia, Europe. All who wish to come to Canada heartily greeted.

(Signed.) Philip Mohr, Sr.
Fort Saskatchewan P. O., Alta., Canada.

Didsbury, Alberta, December 26th, 1898.

Mr. C. House.

Dear Sir: As I agreed to write to you some four years ago, when I took the train at Brown City for Western Canada, I will now give you my experience since I left Brown City. When I arrived at Didsbury, I thought it was a queer looking place to try and make a living at, but nevertheless I found it all right. I went to work on a ranch for \$300 a year. I

worked something over three and a half years and earned \$1,135, and now I am on my own homestead. I have a good house and barn and some fencing, also some cleared land. I have three horses, ten head of cattle, and farming implements. I find it easy to make a living here. The crops were very good this year.

This is a good stock raising country, and all the stock are doing finely this winter, as there has been little snow to hinder them from feeding in the open pastures, but it looks a little hard to see 300 or 400 head of cattle let loose in the morning to hunt up their food when it is -35 degrees below zero and a foot or so of snow on the ground, but they do it all the same, and make good beef, too.

The largest cattle ranch near here has 1,500 head, and that is quite a nice bunch of cattle. The nearest sheep ranch has 18,000 sheep. We also have a new store here now, and it won't be long before there will be more. Some one has to be first everywhere to start business going, and it will not be many years till Didsbury will be a great town.

There has been 7,660 acres of land taken up here in the last six years, and I hear there are twenty-five families coming from Ontario next spring. This will help to fill up Didsbury, and that is what is wanted to make a country. I hope we will see some Michigan people come out, too. I would like to see some of them very much, for I could tell them more than I can write about this fine country.

I find this to be a very healthy place. A person can eat till his eyes bulge out; but, of course, some people think that there is not anything to eat at all out here, but that is where they get left. There is just as much to eat in this country as there is in Michigan, and I think a little more, too. If you don't think so, come and try it and find out for yourself.

This time last year we had fine sleighing, but we are left this year. The snow has all gone to Ontario, as near as I can find out. I suppose some people would think that there would be plenty of snow in Western Canada, but that is a mistake. As far as the cold weather goes, I do not mind it as much as I did in Michigan. I have tested the weather here. I have sat in the saddle for fifty miles when it was 35



OATS IN WESTERN CANADA

and 40 degrees below zero, and I did not notice it as much as I did 20 degrees below zero in Michigan.

Well, I was pleased to see my brother George, who came along on the 21st of December. George has come to stay. He is sorry that he did not come out here two years ago, for he likes the country first-rate.

The prices are as follows: Wheat, 55c. per bush.; barley, 25c.; oats, 25c.; potatoes, 35c.; butter, 25c. per lb.; eggs, 40c. per dozen; turkeys, 15c. per lb.; flour, first quality, \$2.75 per bbl.; second quality, \$2.50 per bbl.; geese, 14c. per lb.; chickens, 10c. per lb.

I spent 24 years in Michigan, and I find that Western Canada is the best, and I am sure that I will see better things here yet from all appearances. I wish you a very happy new year.

Yours truly,

(Signed.)

M. Rykerman.

Leaton, Mich., December 15th, 1898.

Mr. J. N. Grieve, Canadian Immigration Agent,
Mount Pleasant, Michigan.

Dear Sir: I first went to Alberta in April, 1898, and remained five weeks, and was so favorably impressed with what I saw, and could learn from those in a position to know by residence in the country, that I selected three quarter sections and moved there with two of my sons and their families, and they are there now, located off Conjuron Creek, west of Leduc, and are delighted with the country and the prospects for the future. I have broken about 25 acres of the finest land in the world, and built houses, stables, etc. The country is fast filling up with desirable settlers, and I would advise anyone in search of a home to lose no time in seeing it, as I consider it an excellent country for mixed farming. Cattle do remarkably well, there being plenty of feed summer and winter.

We cut and stacked 40 tons of hay, and raised an excellent crop of potatoes, which in quality were the finest I ever saw. There are no potato bugs there, and the crop is very easily raised.

It is also an excellent country for raising many kinds of vegetables, and better wheat and oats cannot be raised anywhere. I intend going back in the spring and make it my permanent home, and expect to take more of my family with me. Anyone desiring any information concerning Alberta may write or see me at Leaton, Mich., or to my son George at Leduc, Alberta.

Yours truly,

(Signed.)

James J. Kirkpatrick.

Lacombe P. O., Alberta, N. W. T., Dec. 7, 1898.
The Commissioner of Immigration, Ottawa.

Sir: I came out from Sheffield, England, in 1889, to Manitoba, for a change as much as anything, and with no fixed determination to stay in the country altogether.

I was a school teacher in the old country, and scarcely ever enjoyed good health. I remained two and a half years in Manitoba, and then returned to England in the winter of 1891. I could not, however, content myself there after the life on the prairie, and returned the following spring to Manitoba. I worked there until June, 1894. When my parents and brother came out the following month, we came to Red Deer, Alberta, with the intention of settling on homesteads, my father and myself being, at that time, the only members of the family qualified to enter for land.

Our capital on arrival, after payment of baggage dues, amounted to about \$25. We had no stock or machinery at all. I was the only one of the family who had any experience at all of farming, and I found it stood me in good stead out here. We found the country, at that time, just beginning to be settled up. Neighbors were scarce, and everything was very dear, and there was very little work to be had.

We located on the west half of section 30, tp. 39, r. 25, west of the 4th meridian, myself on the n.w. $\frac{1}{4}$ and my father on the s. w. $\frac{1}{4}$. We found the soil to be a deep black loam, varying from 10 to 24 inches in depth, suitable for raising anything.

Of course, without capital we found it a hard struggle uphill; work being scarce, made it a great deal harder. The

difficulties we had to contend with are now practically over. There is plenty of work to be had and everything is much cheaper than it was then.

For a country that has only been opened up for about six years, I consider the progress here has been marvellous.

Owing to having had to work from home so much, we have not the work done at home which we might have had, if we had had sufficient means to give us a start. We are, however, gradually getting the stock and machinery around us, and in the course of two or three years hope to be doing well.

Most of our crop this year was cut green, as it was on new land and sown too late to ripen.

I am, Sir.

Yours truly,

(Signed.)

Wm. A. Roe.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Mixed Farming in Alberta.

(Glasgow Scottish Farmer, September 9, 1898.)

Sir: This is making a living by stock and produce. The produce may be partly wheat, rye, oats, or barley, and partly potatoes and turnips; and the stock may be sheep and work horses, and a cow or two for milk, or work horses and cattle, with almost invariably pigs and poultry. Some farmers have small bands of from ten to twenty horses, and their ordinary work horses and cattle. If the farmer sends his milk to a creamery, he is particular about getting his milking cows home night and morning, and this is also necessary if he is milking a number of cows and sending his butter, and eggs to the stores. Yearlings and two-year-olds are turned out about the middle of April. Of course, they have been out very likely all winter, but at that time they are put outside the farm of 160 acres if it is fenced in, and left to forage for themselves till November; and with them any cows suckling calves, which cows have calved early and have settled to the bull. These will stay out till November. I was

at a sale of cattle lately in Innisfail. There were about 160 all ages, and, on the whole, they were a very poor lot. The best cow made \$44; others, including two-year-old heifers, from \$22 up. The steers made from \$25 to \$31; the oldest would be rising three. Railway land, unless in exceptional circumstances, can be bought for \$3 an acre, one-tenth of the purchase price being paid at purchase, the balance, with 6 per cent. interest, in nine annual instalments. These terms are considered very liberal, and if the land is suitable for hay, wood, or cropping, is taken advantage of, and farmers who are able buy a quarter-section adjoining their farm for a run for stock. Further, government land can be bought at \$3 an acre. They stand at \$4 an acre, and I have known their land, with no improvements, standing at \$14 an acre. The only advantage is that the longer their land remains unsold the more pasture there is for stock. Now, I must explain that all the odd-numbered sections unsold are free for pasturing stock.

I came here in 1891, and have not been asked for any taxes yet; but other districts are not so favored. (1) The land is taxed at the government selling price per acre; (2) the improvements are valued, houses, fences, well, and number of acres plowed; (3) the stock are valued, and the ratepayer can appeal to the school trustees if the assessor has valued him too high. I believe the school tax runs from \$5 to \$8 annually. The difficulties which I particularized before may be added to by the three following: (1) Want of knowledge of the country, and agricultural affairs in particular. This can be got over easily by any man with a fair education, an average intellect, and an ordinary supply of common sense. (2) Want of capital. This is easier got over than want of knowledge, for a man willing to work, and especially a skilled laborer, can soon make capital for himself; and by working for others he sees different methods, and when working for himself he can adopt that which gives best results. (3) Indisposition to work. This is the greatest difficulty of all; and so many young, strong, healthy fellows come out here because they felt indisposed to work at home, and are disappointed at their want of success, that I must warn all intending emi-

grants who think they can live without working not to come here.

This is the first of a series of letters on "Mixed Farming," so perhaps you will excuse its being so much of an explanatory nature,

Yours, etc.,
D. C. Cruikshank.

Edmonton, Alberta, May 25th, 1898.

Mr. J. H. M. Parker, Duluth, Minn.

As I promised to write you, I do so. I arrived here safe, also Mr. and Mrs. Thompson and Baker, of Duluth. Thompson and Baker have located, and are now building their houses. They located twenty-two miles east of Edmonton. They were well pleased with the country, as well as myself. I went out with a party of delegates and looked over the country. We all went to Wetaskiwin and went out southeast. We were out four days and travelled at the rate of 50 miles a day. I took pains in looking over the country and made the acquaintance of many farmers, and all like the country and are all doing well. I found the condition of the farmers better than I expected to. There is considerable government land, but you must get back from 20 to 35 miles. All the delegates are locating and are going to get all they can. I think that all new comers ought to have a year's provisions and a little money. I found five elevators at Edmonton and two at Wetaskiwin.

W. A. Clarke,
Mantor, Mich.

Winnipeg, 9th June, 1898.

We, the undersigned delegates from Barnesville, State of Minnesota, have just returned from visiting the Battle River district, near Wetaskiwin. The land is very rich, black loam, clay subsoil; hay is in abundance; good water; and, if prairie fires are kept out, the people can never fall short of fuel and building timber; the timber is fine and large. We saw some fine cattle, and the farmers are all contented and doing well. We met William Swan, who came from Fargo

three years ago, with a team, some farming machinery and \$17 in cash. He has a fine place, six miles of fencing, and threshed last year 46 bushels to the acre. He and his sons own a section of land and his improvements are worth all of \$2,000. We have taken free lands for ourselves on the Battle river, 14 miles from Wetaskiwin, and so have Messrs. Collins, Frankhanel, Spancer and Murray, all from this district. We can fully recommend this district to any farmers who wish to find new homes for their families. There are no taxes, except a small school tax of about \$3 in districts where there are schools. Homesteads are still to be had from 18 to 25 miles out of Wetaskiwin.

(Signed.)

John Marth,
John Eruger,
Chris Bredemreier.

(Translation.)
READ WHAT EVEN OLSTAD, FROM FOSTON,
MINN., SAYS.

Information for Scandinavians in the United States About the
Conditions in Alberta.

During 1894 I emigrated with my family to Alberta, Canada, and have now been here about four years, and I am thus acquainted with the country and its conditions. I can say that I like it well here and do not repent that I left Minnesota. I believe that Alberta, with regard to the fertility of the soil, can fully compete with Minnesota, in spite of the fact that farming is not carried on upon such a large scale here as there, but the products are just as good, if not better.

Last year's harvest of wheat gave from 10 to 50 bushels per acre, depending upon how the soil was cultivated, or on an average 20 to 35; oats from 35 to 75, and barley 20 to 55 bushels per acre. In regard to the raising of cattle, this territory is far ahead of Minnesota and Dakota, as the cattle can here be brought up cheaper and obtain higher prices. The good

and rich summer pasturage makes them grow quick, so that oxen are full-grown at three years of age.

As a dairying state, Alberta is yet in its infancy, but I am fully convinced that dairying will become the chief industry of this state. These products will bring good prices, as they can be shipped to different markets, i. e., England, Kootenay and Klondike, which will likely become head market for butter.

What the people in the States mostly fear is the winter here. They have the wrong impression that the winter in Alberta is very severe. Of course, nothing else could be expected so far north, but I have now spent four winters in Alberta, and none of these have been as severe as those eleven I spent in Minnesota. Some few days it might become very cold, down to 40 degrees, but this low temperature is not felt here as much as in the States, as the air here is dry, and in consequence lighter; and, besides, a very cold day, it is always no wind.

There are many homesteads yet to be had not far from the railway. Here in this settlement, consisting of nearly exclusively Northmen, and situate 22 miles from Wetaskiwin, a station on the Calgary & Edmonton railway, there are several homesteads within the school district bearing the name of New Norway. At Wetaskiwin good business is done, as times during the last year have improved considerably, and here would be a fine opportunity for a Norwegian or Scandinavian store, as we need such a one.

I would not advise anyone to come here without means, as such will have to rely upon others or be more dependent, even if it is not now as difficult to get through as four years ago. On the other hand, I know of people who have come out here without having as much of what is called "Sound Money" to buy a bag of flour, but who still have succeeded and do fairly well.

If you are in possession of two strong arms, a good energy and a sound mind, you will without doubt succeed here in Alberta, and after some time become your own master upon your own farm. On the other hand, a person must not have too great expectations, as here, as well as at any other place, difficulties and unforeseen loss may be met with.

My letter becomes long, and I must conclude, with the advice: Come and examine for yourself and see with your own eyes.

(Signed.)

Even E. Olstad,
Duhamel P. O., Alta., Canada.

Edmonton, Alberta, May 25th, 1898.

Mr. Ed. T. Holmes, 154 E. 3rd Street, St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: I write you as I agreed to do so. I am sorry you could not come out with us and have seen the country. We had a pleasant trip travelling over about 200 miles of country, and liked it well.

I have located in 45-20, section 30; have a fine spring on my location. I found a little alkali, not enough to mention. I also found all the farmers in good condition.

Baker and Thompson are located and like it well. I will start home to Michigan to settle up my affairs and move here as soon as possible, and I must say I have been well treated by all the Canadian Government agents.

At Edmonton, on the Queen's birthday, I saw a large turnout of farmers, whom I questioned very closely and found that they all liked the country, but advise any one coming here to have a little money.

Yours truly,
W. A. Clarke,
Manor, Mich.

Bowden, Alberta, March 7th, 1898.

Mr. L. A. Paddock.

Dear Sir: Your letter, dated Feb. 21, is at hand. I will endeavor to answer it this morning. In regard to the country being rolling, it is not very hilly. It does not wash away; it is dotted over with bunches of timber and with good springs and lakes; and fish, deer, bear, lynx and hare or rabbits. I think that your plow will work all right up here, and you can get most any kind of repairs that a person wants.

Wheat, good milling, 80c.; oats, 30c.; barley, 30c.; potatoes, 30c.; pork, 52c.; beef, 52c.; fresh white fish, 52c. per lb.

We have a flour mill 60 miles south and one about the same distance north. We need one here. Horses will live, and

hundreds of them do live, from one end of the year to the other and are fat all of the time. We live about 60 miles from the mountains. We can see them plain from our front door. Forty feet is as deep as any one has to dig for water, and no alkali to speak of. People charge \$3 per acre for prairie, \$4 to \$5 for broken.

I think you could break all right with your John Deere breaker. The sod is not very tough, but there is a tough spot and then a very loose spot, so it makes it hard to break. June is the very best time to come. We cut lots of hay in the up-land. ~~I was out selling fish yesterday, and I found four cows for sale.~~ I could have bought them for from \$30 to \$40 per head. A man could, by travelling around, pick up a few, but there are lots of men buying.

We cut hay in July and August. It is worth from \$1.50 to \$2 per ton to put it in the stack. You can get a timber permit for 25c., and then you can get all you will need to put up a house and stable, and 2,000 rails and firewood.

Well, I believe I have answered all the questions. You say that you will be up here the first of April. I wish you could come about the 20th of this month, for if the weather stays like it has been for the last three days for a few days longer, there will not be any sleighing. The snow is going very fast. My cattle go out in the morning and stay out all day; get all the water and feed they want, and are doing well. I do not think you can miss it by coming at the earliest opportunity. Well, let me know what day you will leave home, and I will meet you at Bowden. I have maps and prices of railroad land and can show the country for 20 miles around.

I remain, as ever,

Yours respectfully,
H. F. POWELL.

Lewisville, Alberta, October 20th, 1897.
C. J. Broughton, Esq., Canadian Government Land Agent,
Chicago.

Dear Sir: Your favor of October 4th received, asking how I liked Alberta, and if I was pleased or disappointed in the move I made when I left Minnesota and moved to Alberta.

In answer to which I will say we are well pleased. I don't know what a man could ask for any better. We have the best of soil, a black loam. In proof of which, I will cite an instance. Hougher Brothers, who live two miles east of my farm, just threshed 1,000 bushels of wheat from 20 acres and sold the same for 60 cents per bushel. Mr. Wigg, one and a half miles south of me, has just harvested 350 bushels of as fine potatoes as you ever saw off one acre of ground. Oats have gone this year, from 45 bushels, as high as 104 bushels to the acre, and will weigh 42 lbs. to the bushel. I don't think there is a country that can beat us raising roots. We just put 175 head of cabbage in the cellar that weigh from 8 to 23 lbs., any amount from 18 to 21 lbs. Turnips grow without end; we raise them that weigh 8 lbs. for flat, and Swede turnips grow to most any size. Where is the country that can beat that scil? The beauty of it is we get 160 acres of it for nothing, just by living on it and working it for three years. The government gives us the timber to put up our buildings with, which makes the warmest of houses. We keep house plants the year round. Keep warm by wood that we get just for the drawing of it. I think we have the best country in the world for stock. I have never seen anything that could compare with it. Plenty of free range, where cattle can roam with feed up to their eyes. We shelter and house our stock as a rule, 100 head being about the profitable number for a small farmer. The government has built creameries on the co-operation plan for the farmers. They retain one cent a pound to pay for the plant, and at the end of three years the plant is paid for and is turned over to the farmers. This year the common cows have averaged one pound a day after the government has taken out the one cent for the plant and enough to pay for the making and selling it; has netted the farmer 17 cents. So you see we have a dairy country as well, no better. Plenty of grass and water; there are little lakes every mile or so. I am on Battle river, and have two lakes within a mile of me. And what pleases me with the country is, we haven't one cent of tax to pay, unless we vote for a school district; then the taxes are from \$4.50 to \$8 a quarter section. Don't tax personal property in the country. And last, but not least,

is our climate. That takes the cake. In April it comes warm and pleasant, and stays so. We usually have dry springs until the middle of May. After that we have abundance of showers. No terrible storms like we used to have in Illinois. I have been here three years, and we haven't had a thunder shower that would wake a person up. The ground freezes November 1st, and we have snow from the 15th of that month until the 1st of April. We have no blizzards. The snow falls like feathers, and lies when it falls until spring. We have steady cold weather in the winter, and no place on earth can stock do better than they do here. It's a dry cold, and when it is 20 below we do not feel it as much as you do in Illinois at zero. The sun seems to shine all the time in the winter days, and summer evenings you can sit out doors and read a paper at 10 o'clock. Nice cool evenings; no night since we lived here but what you will need two quilts over you. You ask if a poor man can do well here. It's just the country for a poor man; that's what brought me here. Plenty of instances where men came here with just enough to get a team and a cow; have been here three years, got the deed of their land, 50 acres to 100 acres under cultivation, land fenced, and 25 to 30 head of cattle. Of course, some come here and expect to find dollars rolling up hill, but they are disappointed and leave the country. But I don't know as the country is to blame for that. It can't furnish everything. Hoping I have answered all your questions, I am,

Yours truly,
C. E. Vaughn,
Lewisville, Alberta.

Wetaskiwin, October, 1896.

I left Mancelona, Michigan, April 10th, 1894, arrived in Wetaskiwin, April 18th; had a good look at the country until August, then located within five miles of Wetaskiwin. I like the country well. Of course, I came here without anything; now I have a comfortable home and plenty to eat, which I would not have had if I had stayed in Michigan. If anyone wants a free home for \$10, and would like to raise cattle and horses, I know of no better country. Horses need no care

summer or winter. Abundance of hay for the cutting.
(Signed.) Levi Bradshaw.

Sweaborg, Wetaskiwin, Sept. 14th, 1898.

W. Toole, Esq., Calgary, N. W. T.

Dear Sir: According to your request, I will hereby give my experience of the circumstances up here.

It was through the immigration agent, Mr. C. O. Swanson, of Waterville, Que., that I first obtained knowledge of this country, and I followed one of his excursions here four years ago last spring. I have thrived well the whole time since. I have now harvested five crops and have had good crops every year. I can therefore recommend the country for crops as well as climate.

I worked in a shop in the United States thirteen years, and thought during the last years to go out in the country on account of my health. I could surely not have struck anywhere a better climate and general circumstances than I have found here. Therefore, will I specially say to those who are working in shops and feel tired therewith, but would like to get a home of their own, that here is the right place for them. I know several people who came here with very little to start with, but have made good progress, and everyone seems to thrive well; but it is naturally more or less a sacrifice to come from the cities to a new settlement.

I have received dozens of letters from different States with questions about whether the saying that frost destroys everything here is true or not. It is altogether untrue; frosts here do not hurt the grain except in very low places. Old farmers, who have come here from the United States, say that they have never seen such crops before as they saw here, which can be proved this year nearly all over Alberta.

For those who look for land wherein to get a home of their own, there is room for several thousands both on homesteads and on railroad land. The railroad land is cheap, \$3 per acre and ten years' time; so it is a chance for one as well as the other. Bad reputations have come out about Canada, but it is entirely untrue with reference to Alberta. I know very little about the other provinces.

My own progress is not so very great, but I have surely done better here than I should have done in the United States during the same time working in a shop. I have now 50 acres in crop, 11 head of cattle, 5 horses, 20 pigs and 75 chickens, all the necessary farm implements, etc. Is not this to be well off compared to working as a slave in a shop, I would like to know?

Last summer a number of roads have been laid out and fixed up. Several schools were commenced, and a church building is erected within the settlement, which is going ahead in every direction. Immigration is going on steady. Some have left here and gone back to the U. S., but some have returned here again, because they found that it would be better for them.

Yours truly,
(Signed.) C. H. Swanson.

Egg Lake, Alberta, Sept. 9th, 1897.

J. H. M. Parker, Esq., Canadian Government Agent,
Duluth, Minn.

Dear Sir: As I was to see you in April of last spring, you advised Mr. McCormick and myself to come out here and see for ourselves, and when we came out here I was surprised to find this part of the country so well adapted for farming. The soil, climate and crops are all as good as could be desired, and fully as good as you recommended. I am going to return to Michigan to settle up my affairs there, and intend to bring my boys here, as I am getting about all the land I want for them.

I wish you would write me a letter regarding return rates. Write to Calgary, Alberta, care Donohue.

Yours truly,
(Signed.) James Cuthbert.

Wetaskiwin, Alta., Sept. 11th, 1897.

W. Toole, Esq., Calgary, N. W. T.

Dear Sir: You want to know how I have got along since I came into Northern Alberta. I am happy to inform you that I am not ashamed to tell.

We crossed the line and were at the Customs House the 4th

of July, 1895, and located on my land five miles northeast of Wetaskiwin, on the 1st of August; left Farmington, Washington, on the 29th of May.

We had time to build our log house the first fall and to make us comfortable for the family and stock. The first fall we built four stables, 18x20 inside, so that we could put everything inside them when the cold got down to the fifties, and worked hard getting up the stables and got through dubbing on the 1st December, but to our surprise we had no use for the stables only for the milk cow and two span of horses. The balance of the horses lived on the prairie all winter and took care of themselves. Two of the stables we left the doors open for them to go into in a cold time, but they would not do it, but stayed out on the prairie the coldest nights we had, and looked as spry as crickets.

I suppose you want to know if we have made a living since we have been here. I can go ten rods back of my house and count ten residents. I know all of their circumstances. Everyone of them have doubled their cultivated land and doubled their animals, and a great deal more. All of us are comparatively out of debt and an unusually big crop to thresh and prospects of a fair price, and I expect we are as well contented lot of people as there are from Florida to the Klondike.

My son bought two pounds of twine to the acre, and when we started to bind some barley, we found that instead of taking two pounds to the acre, it was taking nearly five pounds. Then you ought to have seen him hitch up a team and make for town for 100 lbs. more. I cannot say how it will thresh. All I can say is that it is well headed, and takes an enormous amount of twine. The reason twine is so hard to get is that the government has taken the fines on the trade of the country, commonly known as duty, off the twine, and the merchants don't want any more of it on hand for another year.

The crops are nearly all cut, except a few late pieces of oats. I have 25 acres yet to cut. Got 75 acres; will thresh some in three days to get grain to fatten my hogs, so as to have some bacon when they start on our shortest road to the Klondike in the spring. The country will be open to us all right, with the Crow's Nest Pass R. R. and the shortest road to the Klondike.

The only fault that we have to complain of is that we did not open more land to have something more to sell.

Yours truly,
(Signed.) John Cummings.

Wetaskiwin, Alta., Dec. 9th, 1897.

I have lived two and a half years in Alberta, near the small town of Wetaskiwin, and during that time have come to the conclusion that it is difficult to find a better region for settlement than ours.

First, it is not difficult to bring land under cultivation, as the whole surface can at once be worked with the plow, and yet there are quantities of timber and fuel. A man who settles on the treeless plain, where he is obliged to buy all timber for building, is at once obliged to have a good deal of money. If any one settles in the primeval forest, the beginning is even more difficult. The great things in this neighborhood are raising cattle and dairying. Nowhere else have I seen such fat cattle as here. It is also a fact that Alberta meat brings a higher price than that from other places. Last year a government butter factory was built in Wetaskiwin and worked with good results.

That our district is fitted for growing grain is evinced by our elevator (grain store), which was built this autumn, and it is even debated as to whether it would not be better to put a second one.

As our settlement is still a new one, and many settlers arrived here poor, on which account they could at first only break a little land, it is a matter for surprise that our district has made such progress. Just one and a half years ago it was difficult to find any employment in the district, as every settler endeavored to find some extra work for himself; now the complaint is that there is a want of laborers. Maid-servants are especially in request, and receive good wages. Our climate is perhaps the healthiest in the world. I myself, at least, have never felt so well as here. There is perhaps much more to be said in regard to this district. I will include all in the closing sentence, "Who seeks a home to him I recommend Alberta."

What has induced me to write this down? Partly the wish that our district should be still more improved by means of immigration. It certainly is a matter of importance to us that our German settlements should become larger. Yet I can say with a clear conscience that that is not the principal object. This is that poor people, also in my German Fatherland, as also day laborers in the cities, should learn where they can attain a happy independence.

(Signed.)

Friedrich Bredlow,
Lutheran Pastor, Wetaskiwin, Alberta.

Wetaskiwin, 8th December, 1897.

I came from Russian Poland, where I was a teacher for 15 years. As I had a large family, I wished to find a new home. As it is difficult to get on in earthly matters in the old home. I chose a new home in Canada, and went off to it with a rejoicing heart. I chose the district of Alberta, as I already had friends there. When I arrived in Winnipeg the district was misrepresented to me. I paid no attention to this, but hastened to my destination. When I arrived in Wetaskiwin it pleased me at once. The fine horses, beautiful cattle, the fine soil; many farms were well built, and I thought at once this cannot be a bad district. And when I learned further that many of the farmers had only been there two to three years and had come with very little money, others without a cent, merely some provisions, others even in debt, everyone must agree with me, the people here have made great progress. Most of them have in their stock more than one team of horses, rather from four to more, 10 to 20 head of cattle, etc., the necessary farming implements, many a good number of machines. One sees how the farmers endeavor to improve, and this is really the spot where one does not work for nothing. Each endeavors to possess something, and it is really possible to obtain something here more than it is in other places. Cattle bring a good price, horses medium, everything else good.

In my opinion this district is a good one. No one who wishes to change his dwelling place need fear to come here.

There are still homesteads and good farms nearer to the town to be bought for a low price.

As there is excellent pasture for cows here, a butter factory was built this year through the intervention of Mr. A. Rosenroll, which has been most useful to farmers.

Cattle here become very fat. Yesterday a neighbor of mine killed a cow which had not been specially fed, but yielded four pails of tallow.

In regard to my chances of progress, I cannot say much, as I myself have only been here a year; but can say so much, I have never yet repented coming here, and have already got on better than in my old home. If anyone wishes to have further information, they need only write to me, and I will not leave their inquiries unanswered.

(Signed.) Julius Pekrul,

Missionary of the German Baptist Community.
My address: Julius Pekrul, Wetaskiwin P. O.,

Alberta, Canada, North America.

Wetaskiwin, November 30th, 1897.

I was cow herder with Mr. Robert Tomasius, in Froegenau, District Osterode, Rag., near Konigsberg. Some years ago I left the old home to find a new one in the Canadian Northwest. When I arrived in Winnipeg my money was, so to speak, at an end. Two months later came my family, consisting of my wife, mother and two children. For some years I worked with farmers, when I applied my wages to getting cattle and sheep. As I had heard often and much about the splendid regions about Wetaskiwin, I decided to come here, and I have succeeded beyond expectations. There is already a large German population here, from 50 to 60 families, and all make important progress every year, and one never hears complaints, as one does in the United States from settlers. We have also many Germans from Russia here who thank God that they have come to this country, where they can get on better in one year than in Russia in a life time. This is a paradise for raising cattle, although wheat, barley and oats do well. There is a good market for disposing of all the products in the mining district of the Rocky Mountains and on

the sea coast of the Pacific. Our butter and fat cattle are exported to England and France. We have a plentiful water supply, which is not always to be had in other districts; in summer always enough rainfall, in winter superb sleighing. The greater part of the cattle are fed in the open during the daytime in winter; at night they generally stand under sheds. This spring we received, through the intervention of Mr. Rosenroll, a butter factory, which is under the supervision of the government, and is a veritable gold mine for the farmers, as all milk can be disposed of. From 22 cows the mill brought me in during three months over 1,200 marks. 1 mark 1 shilling.

I now own over 1,000 acres (Eng.) of land, 120 horned cattle, 13 horses, 250 sheep, 24 hogs, 30 turkeys, 50 ducks, 65 hens, all the necessary implements for agriculture, self-binder, harvester, mowing machine and horse rake, etc. This year I had from my farm a clear profit of 6,000 marks. Next year I hope to do better still, as I intend buying in more land, which is still to be had for almost nothing, and such beautiful and rich soil that one's heart laughs for joy.

Should any of our German brethren, who, in spite of hard work, cannot make a success of it in the Fatherland, have a desire to emigrate, I can recommend this district; here one can attain something.

I have my laborers sent out from Germany, for here they are not to be had, as everyone with very little trouble can start for himself. Mr. Spiro, emigration agent in Hamburg, manages the forwarding very well, indeed. We have here also a Lutheran Congregation, and are ministered to by Pastor Bredlow (from West Pruss'a.) It would please us to obtain more German countrymen.

(Signed.)

Adam Kaiser.

WHAT A CANADIAN STOCKMAN HAS TO SAY OF IT.

"To anyone dissatisfied with the east, whether for financial, physical, or even social reasons," remarked Mr. George Dun-

can, formerly of New York State, in the Griswold House, Detroit, the other day to a Sun representative, "in my opinion Western Canada offers the best inducements."

Mr. Duncan migrated to California several years ago, but becoming dissatisfied with that country and climate, and hearing of the great opportunities and excellent climate of the Canadian Territories, removed to the latter country soon after.

Mr. Duncan's impressions of the country, after four years' residence there, can best be told in his own words. He said: I was originally an eastern man, born and raised in New York State. My parents were poor, and, like many other young men, I was obliged to work early and late for a meagre income that barely paid my living expenses.

"In 1888 I first took the western fever and struck out for the promised land. I never was what you would call a lucky man, but by hard work and perseverance I have managed to not only get a good living, but have accumulated a good share of this world's wealth, and my dreams have been fully realized. The west is my home from now on."

"The good fortune did not strike me in Colorado, California or any other of the Western States, but in the country north of Montana, in what is known as British Columbia and Alberta, which has been for a few years and is yet enjoying a boom unheard of before in the history of the continent.

"I tried fruit-raising in California, but could not stand the wet season, and it was not until I struck Canada that I became entirely satisfied as to climate and remunerative occupation."

"I started in the grocery business in Vancouver, B. C., in the fall of 1893, and stayed with it for a year and a half. Having been much more successful than I anticipated, I sold out and went to the Territory of Alberta to go into stock raising."

"I struck the vast track of ranching and farming country in June, 1895, and travelled a good part of the country before deciding on a suitable spot. I located near Buffalo Lake, in Northern Alberta, and commenced my present business on a small scale. I started it with a few head of horses and cattle, and at present I have a herd of 300 cattle, 100 horses and about

400 sheep. I do a little farming, but I find stock raising so profitable that I will stick to it almost exclusively."

"The towns in that country are all live and booming. Prices are high, which makes labor command good wages, and a young man in any line can find plenty of openings and opportunities for investments with scarcely an iota of failure."

"The people are hospitable and I think the most sociable I have ever met, which I think can be accounted for by the success they have had."

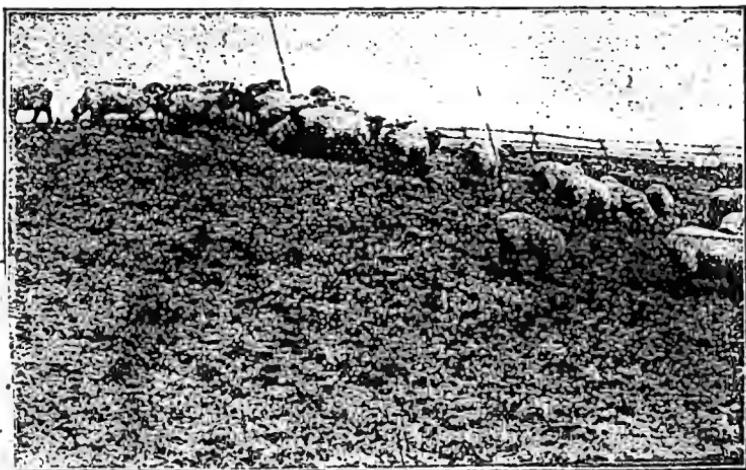
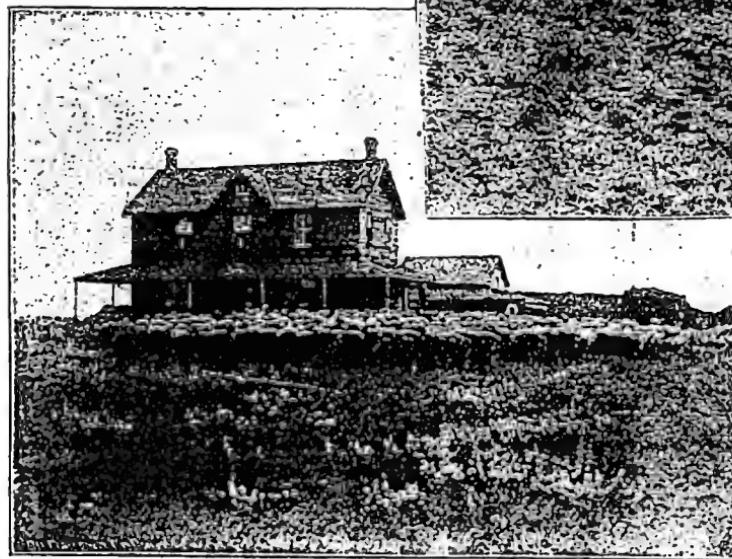
"In going west I would advise land-seekers and tourists to travel via the Canadian Pacific Railway, as it is the only line traversing the picturesque country to the north of the Great Lakes and the entire prairie country. The trains are superbly fitted up with all modern conveniences and the service is the best to be had."

"If, as I think, the present difficulty with Spain has been the means of cementing an alliance of Great Britain and Canada with the United States that must eventually annex the two countries virtually into one grand Anglo-Saxon family, the greatest rush in the history of the world will be made to that Northwest garden. All those who get there now will certainly enjoy the advantages of being first in the field."

THE EDMONTON DISTRICT.

A Splendid Farming Country Benefiting From the Klondike Fever.

The Agricola colony has a population of 1,200. Many of these settlers were in very poor circumstances when they arrived, though the majority of them had stock of their own. Now, with scarcely any exceptions, they are prosperous and happy, while many of them are comparatively wealthy. As examples of what has been done by the colonists in the Agricola, Alberta, district last year, the crops of several of the leading men were mentioned. Hugh Irvine, who has been in the country five years, threshed 3,200 bushels and received 70 cents a bushel for it. Jas. Fitzgerald raised 3,000 bushels in



R. TURNER'S "SHROPSHires" IN WESTERN CANADA

his fourth year of settlement. James Atkinson had a crop of 3,500 bushels. These men started without capital.

In addition to this, the opening of British Columbia mining regions by means of the Crow's Nest Pass railway will furnish a second market for what the Edmonton farmer can produce. Hundreds of square miles of magnificent farming country yet remain for cultivation in the Saskatchewan valley, which can be bought at a very reasonable price.

HAD NOTHING WHEN HE STARTED.

Wetaskiwin, October, 1896.

I left Mancelona, Michigan, April 10th, 1894, arrived in Wetaskiwin April 18th; had a good look at the country until August; then located within five miles from Wetaskiwin. I like the country well. Of course, I came here without anything; now I have a comfortable home and plenty to eat, which I would not have had if I had stayed in Michigan. If anyone wants a free home for \$10, and would like to raise cattle and horses, I know of no better country. Horses need no care summer nor winter; abundance of hay for the cutting.

(Signed.) Levi Bradshaw.

HE LOCATED AT BEAVER LAKE.

Calgary, Alberta, March 22, 1898.

Mr. W. V. Bennett, Omaha, Nebraska.

Dear Sir: I have lived in Nebraska for the last 31 years, farming and stock raising being my occupation. My attention was drawn to the Canadian Northwest by a pamphlet received from Mr. Bennett, the Canadian immigration agent in Omaha, and as there are a large number of my friends living in Nebraska, who are unable, owing to the high price of land, excessive taxation, poor crops, hard times generally and low prices, to make or acquire homes for themselves or their families, I was induced by my friends to visit the Canadian Northwest, and particularly Alberta, for the purpose of satisfying myself and my friends whether the reports made by the gov-

ernment agents, railway representatives and also distributed in the pamphlets were correct and could be thoroughly relied upon. I reached Winnipeg en route to Edmonton on or about the 22nd of February. I travelled straight through to Calgary, where I left the main line of the C. P. R. and boarded the north bound train of the Calgary & Edmonton railway. The first place I left the train was at Lacombe, where I remained from Friday evening to Monday morning. I visited Friend Bagley, who formerly lived in Nebraska, and who showed me as much of that locality as he could in the short time I was there. I was much impressed by what I saw in the Lacombe district, and the settlers appeared to me to be a very prosperous and contented lot of people. Mr. Bagley showed me two lots of thoroughbred cattle, which I considered first-class. I also learned while there that the most successful grain growers were those who had been careful in the selection of their farms and who had selected high and dry land for grain fields. Being a cattle raiser nearly all my life, I never pass a bunch of cattle without noticing in what condition they are, and I was therefore struck with the fine condition of the cattle in the Lacombe district and throughout Alberta wherever I saw them.

The next place I stopped off at was Edmonton, and after looking around close to town for a few days and conversing with farmers and settlers in that locality, I came to the conclusion that to secure a suitable location for stock raising it would be necessary to go some considerable distance east, so as to get well out of the thickly settled localities.

Shortly after my arrival in Edmonton, I met Mr. Eugene Clark, of Beaver Hills P. O., who moved to Alberta from Nebraska about three and a half years ago. He being acquainted about the country with the best locations, he took me home to his farm, which is located about eight miles south of Fort Saskatchewan, in a very fine locality. There is a school house and creamery skimming station in his neighborhood, and at Fort Saskatchewan a first-class roller flour mill. They had not received returns from the creamery showing amount of butter sold, manufactured, etc., but from what I could learn everybody is well satisfied at the way this creamery and those

in other districts I visited were operated by the government. Mr. Clark has applied for a patent to his 160 acres. He considers that he has done exceedingly well by making the move he did. I met Mr. Doxey, the postmaster at Beaver Hills, and stopped a night at his place. He has a very fine farm and a large number of live stock, including horses, cattle, sheep and pigs. From Beaver Hills I travelled to Mr. Lovering's farm, about 25 or 30 miles southeast, mostly east, and it was going there I passed through what I would consider a timber country, but which has not a very attractive appearance, owing to a large fire which burned through the district a couple of years ago. The land has the appearance of being very rich, but as I was looking for a grazing location, I did not pay much attention to the soil, although, judging from the quantity and quality of straw and the way the land lies, it must be very rich.

After thoroughly examining the Beaver Lake District, I have decided to move there; in fact, I have already taken up a homestead, made a purchase of stock and written to my family and some of my relations to come. I would not advise any one to locate near me who intends to make his specialty grain growing, as the district is too far from the market, which is at South Edmonton, where there are five large elevators, a big flour mill and a very large oatmeal mill. They were paying 28 cents for oats and 65 cents for good quality of wheat when I was there. Between Edmonton and Fort Saskatchewan, along the south side of the Saskatchewan river, is as fine a general farming country as I ever saw. It is well settled, all homesteads being taken up, but some good railroad lands are left yet. It lies beautifully, and is of a gently rolling nature. Black loam soil. Where we stopped for dinner, returning to Edmonton, we were told that five pieces of railroad land had been sold within a few days to parties who intend going into immediate occupation and making improvements. I have written several letters since reaching Alberta, and my advice to all has been to come and see the country before deciding to move, as then, in the event of their anticipations not being fully realized, it is not too late or expensive to return home as it would be if they sold out everything in Ne-

braska. The cost of visiting Alberta is not a very serious matter, as the Canadian Pacific Railway Company offer a cent a mile to bona fide settlers or land-hunters, but for all particulars as to how to secure this low rate, parties should write to Mr. W. V. Bennett, of 801 New York Life Building, Omaha, Nebraska, from whom I got the reduced rates.

Yours truly,
L. L. Darling,
Logan P. O., Alberta.

SETTLED NEAR LEDUC, WHERE THE SETTLERS
ARE NEARLY ALL FROM MINNESOTA
AND WISCONSIN.

St. Paul Minn., May 18th, 1898.

Mr. Benjamin Davies, St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: I returned to St. Paul, from Edmonton, May 5th, from a tour of inspection of Western Canada.

I was more than pleased with my visit, and the farmers I interviewed were happy and content; their crops for the past five years have been satisfactory.

I could not get free government lands near Edmonton, but wishing to locate in that vicinity, bought a fourth of a section of C. P. R. land, four miles from Leduc, in Alberta; one-fourth Section 1, Township 50, Range 4 west.

I am very much pleased with the land I bought and the country surrounding. I return to St. Paul to settle up my business, and will return and go into farming there. I found the soil is from three to four feet deep, a black loam, and not a stone or rock in sight. I was much pleased to find the markets all along the railway from Calgary to Edmonton in a flourishing condition, and the farmers find ready cash for all their products.

Schools, churches, elevators, creameries and saw-mills are within easy reach of all settlers.

There is a great rush of new settlers arriving every day. Edmonton is booming. The great rush to the Klondyke has tended to advance the prices of almost everything required.

I would recommend new settlers to take with them all their farming implements; also horses, cattle and calves. The prices of these articles have advanced on account of the great rush of new settlers, prospectors and Klondykers.

I would recommend the country near Clearwater as a good locality, where railroad land is to be had at \$3 per acre on the 10-year purchase, in ten equal payments, and if the purchaser settles on it he is not required to make a payment the first year.

Taking the country as a whole, I am much pleased with it. I found the settlers very hospitable. They invited me to stay as long as I liked to with them. They were nearly all from Minnesota and Wisconsin, and are in good circumstances. I was told by them that they averaged 40 bushels of wheat to the acre. Oats were worth 32 cents per bushel in April, and were selling hay for \$9 per ton, which can be cut and put up for \$1.25 per ton.

August Lambert, of Chippawa Falls, Wis., was my companion, and was hunting land. He also took railway lands in Section 3 one mile west of mine. We took railroad lands because it was closer to the markets than government lands in that vicinity, they being nearly all taken up.

Thanking you and the government, also the C. P. R. agents, for information so freely given, I am,

Yours truly,

(Signed.) Charles F. Flohr.
326 Goodrich Avenue, St. Paul, Minn, U. S. A.

Swan River, Manitoba, 10, 35, 29.

November 11th, 1898.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Commissioner of Immigration,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Dear Sir: I intended to write to you long ere this and tell you how I got on, but I have been very busy, and time flies by. If you remember, I came from the North of Ireland last June with a family of 12 and my brother. I took two homesteads one for my eldest son James and self—northeast and northwest quarter of Section 10, 35, 29. I like the land of the Swan River Valley better than any I have seen. I have about

12 acres of land plowed, have a dwelling house 32x22 feet, a stable 24x15 feet, six head of cattle, a yoke of oxen and a horse. I did not get here till the 14th August. In fact, I think the government of the Dominion has done everything possible for the comfort of the settlers; indeed, I must say that the government and railway officials of Manitoba are the kindest people I ever met.

I am, dear Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed.)

Richard Lyons.

P. S.—There are two things which I hope, with your usual kindness, you will use your influence to get—a school (I have seven children under 13 years) and a post office. Fort Pelly is only 28 miles from here, and it would not cost much to have a post to here from there.

R. L.

Bridge Creek, December 5th, 1898.

John Flesher, Esq.

Dear Sir: I arrived in Manitoba in the month of May, 1880, and selected a homestead and pre-emption on the west half of Section 10, Tp. 15, Range 16, and have resided there ever since. My capital amounted to \$500, besides my household effects, with a family of five, all too small to be of use in the way of help. My two sons now own the north half of Section 9 in the same township, so that we have the section with only the road between. We have raised this year 3,500 bushels of wheat, 2,000 bushels of oats and barley. I have four working teams of horses and three young horses, a stock of twelve cows, one pure bred Jersey bull, and fifteen head of young stock. I consider my farms, stock and implements, at a low valuation, worth \$10,000. My wheat this year averaged 30 bushels per acre; oats, between 40 and 50. I have had good success with crops; no damage from frost, and only two slight losses from hail. Hoping that your efforts in the matter of immigration may be successful.

I remain,

Yours truly,

(Signed.) Robert Campbell.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. J. G. Bcsley, who resides on Section 22, 18, 27 west 2nd, Marlborough P. O., N. W. T.:-

When did you settle in your present location? 1883.
 Have you been successful? Yes.
 What number of horses have you? 20.
 What number of cattle have you? 30.
 What number of swine have you? 20.
 What capital did you have to start with? \$600.00.
 How much land have you under cultivation? 320 acres.
 Wheat? 240 acres. Oats? 80 acres.
 What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$3,300.00.
 What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$3,500.00.
 What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.
 What is the average price of an improved farm? \$5.00 per acre.
 What is the average price of wild land? \$3.00 per acre.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. Andrew Hagerty, who resides on Secs. 14 and 15, 18, 24 west 2nd, Stony Beach P. O., Assiniboia, N. W. T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1889.
 Have you been successful? Yes.
 What number of horses have you? 15.
 What number of cattle have you? 35.
 What capital did you have to start with? \$4,000.00.
 How much land have you under cultivation? 240 acres.
 Wheat, 160 acres; oats, 75 acres; other grains, 5 acres.
 What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$2,150.
 What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$3,646.32.
 What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.
 What is average price of an improved farm? \$10 per acre.
 What is average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. Hugh Gil-mur, who resides on Section 6, 19, 20, west 2nd, Moose Jaw P. O. Assiniboia, N. W. T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1885.
 Have you been successful? Yes.
 What number of horses have you? 11.
 What number of cattle have you? 15.
 What capital did you start with? Yoke of oxen; no money.
 How much land have you under cultivation? 165 acres.
 Wheat, 150 acres; oats, 15 acres.
 What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,075.
 What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$4,300.
 What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.
 What is average price of an improved farm? \$8 to \$10 per acre.
 What is average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. Samuel K. Rothwell, who resides on Section 22, 17, 27, west 2nd, Moose Jaw P. O., Assiniboia, N. W. T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1884.
 Have you been successful? Yes.
 What number of horses have you? 14.
 What number of cattle have you? 50.
 What number of swine have you? 40.
 What capital did you have to start with? \$700.
 How much land have you under cultivation? 280 acres.
 Wheat, 200 acres; oats, 80 acres.
 What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$3,100.
 What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$4,420.
 What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.
 What is average price of an improved farm? \$8 per acre.
 What is average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. Alex. Morrison, who resides on Section 30, 6, 3, west 1st, Carman P. O., Manitoba.

When did you settle in your present location? 1882.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 10.

What number of cattle have you? 30.

What number of swine have you? 30.

What capital did you have to start with? Team of horses, household effects, provisions for six months, seed grain. No cash.

How much land have you under cultivation? 225 acres.

Wheat, 130 acres; oats, 50 acres; barley, 25 acres.

What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$3,000.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$2,500.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Wheat-growing and mixed farming.

What is average price of an improved farm? \$15 per acre.

What is average price of wild land? \$10 to \$12 per acre.

Answers to questions submitted to Mr. Wm. J. Rattray, who resides on Section 16, 7, 26, west 1st meridian, Pipestone P. O., Manitoba.

When did you settle in your present location? 1892.

Have you been successful? Yes.

How much land have you under cultivation? 715 acres.

Wheat, 600 acres; oats, 100 acres; barley 15 acres.

What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$3,000.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$5,300.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Raising of wheat and cattle.

What is average price of an improved farm? \$7 per acre.

What is average price of wild land? \$5 per acre.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. H. Ewing, who resides on Section 3, 54, 22, west of 4th meridian, Agincourt P. O., Alfa, N. W. T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1894.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 9.

What number of cattle have you? 32.

What number of swine have you? 30.

What capital did you have to start with? \$2,600.

How much land have you under cultivation? 120 acres.

Wheat, 70 acres; oats, 38 acres; barley, 12 acres.

What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,291.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$2,350.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is average price of an improved farm? \$5 to \$6 per acre.

What is average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

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Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. P. Flynn, who resides on Section 12, 55, 25, west 4th meridian, Roseridge P. O., Alberta, N. W. T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1894.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 9.

What number of cattle have you? 20.

What number of swine have you? 30.

What capital did you have to start with? \$1,500.

How much land have you under cultivation? 664 acres.

Wheat, 35 acres; oats, 27 acres; barley, 44 acres.

What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,500.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$1,500.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is average price of an improved farm? \$5 per acre.

What is average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. William Wood, who resides on west half 12, 19, 29, west 1st meridian, Elkhorn P. O., Manitoba.

Nationality, Scotch.

When did you locate in your present location? 1883.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 9.

What number of cattle have you? 12.

What capital did you have to start with? \$500.

How much land have you under cultivation? 165 acres.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$1,000.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is average price of an improved farm? \$8 to \$10 per acre.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. Peter Wunder, who resides on Section 22, 30, 10, west 2nd, Sheho P. O., Alberta, N. W. T.

What is average price of wild land? \$3 to \$6 per acre.

Nationality, American.

When did you settle in your present location? 1891.

Have you been successful? Yes, very much so.

What number of horses have you? 26.

What number of cattle have you? 100.

What capital did you have to start with? I had no capital.

What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$950.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? Sold this season about \$1,000 worth.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed farming and dairying.

What is average price of an improved farm? \$10 per acre.

What is average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. James E. Peaker, who resides on Section 6, 24, 3, west 2nd, Yorkton P. O., Assiniboia, N. W. T.

Nationality, English.

When did you settle in your present location? 1888.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 20.

What number of cattle have you? 175.

What capital did you have to start with? \$2,500.

How much land have you under cultivation? 240 acres.

Wheat, 60 acres; oats, 80 acres; other grains, 100 acres.

What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,425.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$1,600.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. Samuel Sanderson, who resides on Section 2, 26, 4, west 2nd meridian, Yorkton P. O., Assiniboia, N. W. T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1888.

What number of horses have you? 8.

What number of cattle have you? 64.

What capital did you have to start with? About \$100.

How much land have you under cultivation? 100 acres.

Wheat, 85 acres; oats, 15 acres.

What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,450.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$1,200.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is average price of an improved farm? \$10 per acre.

What is average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. Henry Harris, who resides on Section 12, 25, 4, west 2nd, Yorkton P. O., Assiniboia, N. W. T.

Nationality, Englishman.

When did you settle in your present location? 1889.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 10.

What number of cattle have you? 55.

What capital did you have to start with? \$800.

How much land have you under cultivation? 90 acres.

Wheat, 40 acres; oats, 50 acres.

What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,400.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$1,000.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is average price of an improved farm? \$10 per acre.

What is average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. Henry Schwitzer, who resides on Section 34, 18, 7, west 2nd, Grenfell P. O., Assiniboia, N. W. T.

Nationality, German.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 5.

What number of cattle have you? 30.

What capital did you have to start with? \$75.

How much land have you under cultivation? 95 acres.

Wheat, 60 acres; oats, 30 acres; rye, 5 acres.

What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$950.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$500.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is average price of an improved farm? \$8 per acre.

What is average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. W. K. Jefferson, who resides on half of Section 24, 7, 4, west 2nd, Carlyle P. O., N. W. T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1882.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 9.

What number of cattle have you? 59.

What capital did you have to start with? \$3.00.

How much land have you under cultivation? 92 acres.

Wheat, 60 acres; oats, 20 acres; barley, 12 acres.

What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,000.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$2,700.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. Edward Turner, who resides on Section 21, 16, 18, west 1st, Minnedosa, Manitoba.

Nationality, Scotch-Canadian.

When did you settle in your present location? 1882.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 10.

What number of cattle have you? 50.

What capital did you have to start with? \$400.

How much land have you under cultivation? 205 acres.

Wheat, 50 acres; oats, 75 acres; barley, 20 acres; summer fallow, 60 acres.

What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$3,700.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$2,000.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is average price of an improved farm? \$10 per acre.

What is average price of wild land? \$3 to \$7 per acre.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. Charles Martin, who resides on Section 22, 18, 21, west 2nd, Wascana P. O., Assiniboia, N. W. T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1883.
 Have you been successful? Yes.
 What number of horses have you? 10.
 What number of cattle have you? 22.
 What capital did you have to start with? \$2,000.
 How much land have you under cultivation? 135 acres.
 Wheat, 90 acres; oats, 45 acres.
 What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,100.
 What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$2,555.
 What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.
 What is average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. Duncan Buchanan, who resides on Section 19, 15, 9, west 1st meridian.

Nationality, Scotch-Canadian.
 When did you settle in your present location? 1880.
 Have you been successful? Yes.
 What number of horses have you? 8.
 What number of cattle have you? None.
 What capital did you have to start with? Nothing.
 How much land have you under cultivation? 100 acres.
 Wheat, 30 acres; oats, 70 acres.
 What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,800.
 What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$1,000.
 What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.
 What is average price of an improved farm? \$8 per acre.
 What is average price of wild land? \$3 to \$6 per acre.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. Charles Tanson, who resides on Section 13, 15, 17, west 1st meridian, Franklin P. O., Manitoba.

Nationality, English-Canadian.
 When did you settle in your present location? 1894.
 Have you been successful? Yes.
 What number of horses have you? 6.
 What number of cattle have you? 2.
 What number of swine have you? 100.
 How much land have you under cultivation? 101 acres.
 Wheat, 60 acres; oats, 11 acres; barley, 9 acres; other grains, 11 acres; timothy, 10 acres.
 What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$1,600.
 What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,200.
 What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.
 What is average price of an improved farm? \$8 to \$10 per acre.
 What is average price of wild land? \$4 to \$5 per acre.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. Peter Hume, who resides on Section 28, 13, 17, west 1st meridian, Minnedosa, Manitoba.

Nationality, Scotch.
 When did you settle in your present location? 1882.
 Have you been successful? Yes.
 What number of horses have you? 14.
 What number of cattle have you? 35.
 How much land have you under cultivation? 200 acres.
 Wheat, 75 acres; oats, 50 acres; other grains, 75 acres.
 What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,000.
 What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$1,500.
 What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.
 What is average price of an improved farm? \$8 per acre.
 What is average price of wild land? \$3 to \$5 per acre.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. Philip Lowhuberg, who resides on Section 2, 19, 7, west 2nd meridian, Grenfell P. O., N. W. T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1887.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 4.

What number of cattle have you? 15.

How much land have you under cultivation? 83 acres.

Wheat, 65 acres; oats, 18 acres.

What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$500.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$600.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is average price of an improved farm? \$8 per acre.

What is average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. Thomas H. Jackson, who resides on Section 31, 15, 17, west 1st meridian, Minnedosa P. O., Manitoba.

Nationality, Irish-Canadian.

When did you settle in your present location? 1878.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 28.

What number of cattle have you? 68.

What capital did you have start with? \$100.

How much land have you under cultivation? 270 acres.

Wheat, 120 acres; oats, 75 acres; barley, 25 acres; fallow, 50 acres.

What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$7,300.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$4,000.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is average price of an improved farm? \$8 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$4 per acre.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. Henry Swan, who resides on Parish Lot No. 381, Tp. 5, Range 1, east 1st meridian, Morris P. O., Manitoba.

Nationality, German.

When did you settle in your present location? 1878.

Have you been successful? I have.

What number of horses have you? 10.

What number of cattle have you? 25.

What capital did you have to start with? \$700.

How much land have you under cultivation? 210 acres.

Wheat, 140 acres; oats, 40 acres; barley, 20 acres; other grains, 10 acres.

What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$2,600.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$1,800.

What is average price of an improved farm? \$10 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$5 per acre.

Answers received to questions submitted to Mr. Basil Hutchinson, who resides on Section 2, 19, 21, west 2nd, Lumsden P. O., Assiniboia, N. W. T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1890.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 20.

What number of cattle have you? 30.

What capital did you have to start with? \$2,000.

How much land have you under cultivation? 265 acres.

Wheat, 200 acres; oats, 65 acres.

What is value of your house, stable and implements? \$3,100.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$3,000.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is average price of an improved farm? \$8 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Dauphin, Manitoba, Jan. 26th, 1899.

M. V. McInnes, Esq., Chief Canadian Government Agent,
Merrill Block, Detroit, Mich.

My Dear Sir: I thought I ought to write you, as you were so kind in favoring me and doing all you could for me when I was in Michigan. I cannot forget your kindness and the quick work you did for me.

I have been here now nearly three months, and am highly pleased with the country and my settlement in it. I am happy to say that the winters here are not nearly as severe as they are in Michigan; that is, one does not feel the cold as badly here as there. Here at Dauphin we are well sheltered by the mountains. There is never much wind here and the air is very dry and pure, so that you never feel the cold much at all.

This is one of the best stock raising countries in the world, and has the very finest soil I ever saw anywhere, and I have been used to farming all my life. When I came here first I had a chance to see the kind of soil we have, for I dug several wells. The water is very good and you have only to dig from 10 to 15 feet to get it. There is plenty of good timber here for building purposes.

I never saw cattle look so fine as they do here this winter. With reasonable care they give great milk and make the grandest and sweetest beef I ever eat. I will try and get all the people I can to come here, and I know more than 100 who are interested in this country, and every one of them ought to come out here in the spring and settle.

There is a Mr. Munro, of Angel, Traverse County, who is spending the winter in the south. He would come out here next summer, if he was asked. He has travelled a good deal and would make a strong impression among Michigan people, if he liked the country, and I am very sure that he would like it. He is well acquainted with many farmers in Traverse County and all around, and he is the man they must look up to, for his judgment is excellent in most everything. He is the man who represented the State of Michigan at New Orleans and had charge of the fruit exhibit there. He says that Western Canada has a great future before it, and when I asked him if he would go there and stay a while and look the coun-

try over, he said he would if he had a good opportunity. This was early last fall. I am sure a good report from him would add hundreds of settlers to this section of the country.

The people here are enterprising and smart and want to get on and make money and have good homes. There are churches, schools, and all conveniences and comforts of eastern life. I am delighted I came here and will stay and get more to join me. There is lots of work here for everybody who comes, and I am supporting my family now by what I earn.

Well, now, I must finish and go to work. Many thanks for your kindness.

(Signed.)

Yours respectfully,
Lewis A. Graham.

Kalkaska, Kalkaska County, Michigan,
January 21st, 1899.
M. V. McInnes, Esq., Chief Canadian Government Agent,
Detroit, Michigan.

Kind Sir: Although I am only recovering from an attack of the gripe and am quite weak, I will cheerfully give you my views on Western Canada, which is rightly called the poor man's country.

I arrived at Calgary on the 19th of April, 1898, and remained in and about the city for two or three weeks to see what the opening of spring was like. It was very beautiful, the grass coming rapidly along. You could almost see it grow. The nights were cool, but there was no frost. I then left Calgary and went to my daughter's place in British Columbia, expecting to return in the season of harvesting and threshing, but the gripe was still on me, and this kept me there till latter part of October, when I returned to Calgary.

On the last of October all around Calgary I found beautiful weather, warm days and cool nights, but no frost. There I met a number of settlers who had taken up homesteads in the vicinity three or four years ago. They said they would never return to the States, but remain where they were. They were all busy and said that this was the time they made their money. If a man has a few hundred dollars in this place it

will set him up all right and at once; and even without money he can get along, but it will take him some little time to get well under way.

Now, Mr. McInnes, I want to say right here that there are thousands of men with families in the east renting farms or owning small holdings. They may have a team of horses and perhaps a cow or two. They work and plod away year after year, only to see the same unsatisfactory ending as the years go by. I notice this state of things more now than I did before. I have talked with a good many of them, and I say to them that they had better get what they can for their farms and stuff and go at once to Alberta, for delay will only make their financial condition worse, for it will hinder them from getting homesteads near the railroads and drive them back farther from it the longer they stay away. Besides, I tell them it will only cost them a trifle to get to Alberta, and they can buy most of the things they want very reasonably when they get there.

Many of them ask me why I talk so favorably of Alberta as a poor man's country? I tell them it is because they can each get a free homestead of 160 acres and have only \$10 to pay for the title papers, that besides being able to cultivate great grain crops they can grow potatoes in abundance and cabbage, and all kinds of vegetables and turnips, and all the root crops, and as soon as ever these are taken out of the ground cash is paid for them on the spot. There is no better market for produce in the world than right there in Western Canada.

Calgary is near a great lumbering and mining country, which is open all the year round and full of men at hard work. There is a firm at the town of Revelstoke that keeps a general supply store and sells in large lots to camps and small stores, who offered me a continuous contract for all the produce, poultry, vegetables, eggs, and anything that men could eat, so you see that a working man could dig up the sod and support himself nicely till a large crop was grown and sold. As for healthiness, they hardly know what sickness is in that country. Fevers and biliousness I never saw there. As for wheat, it is at the head of the class, and oats come next. I saw some of the Alberta oats, and I tell you they are

large and well filled. I did not see any of the wheat, but I ate some of the flour, and it makes the finest bread you can get anywhere. Besides wheat and oats, they grow barley and rye there very successfully.

Furthermore, as to the poor man, I think he should get some hens and turkeys and raise chickens and eggs, if he could do no more for the first year. What he could make out of two or three hundred hens would keep him till he could do better, and he could raise a patch of millet or buckwheat to winter them on. The people will come to your door with the cash for every dozen of eggs you get, and if you work away, it will only be 2 or 3 years till you get plenty of grain coming on. After you have got one good crop out you are over the hill and on a fine level road in a grand country.

I would be out in Calgary now, but the sickness that I caught here still delays me, but I have got a good homestead claim there and intend going out next spring with my son and take up another for him near at hand. Then we will work together and make our home in that fine country. Once, I shake off my illness and get settled there, I will be all right. I would advise every man who wishes to get on and make a good home for himself and be prosperous, to go to Alberta next spring, take up a good homestead claim and go to work. He will never regret it.

Yours very respectfully,
(Signed.)

G. W. Carothers.

Carman, Manitoba, Feb. 14, 1898.

Mr. Adam Sharp, Ludington, Michigan.

Dear Sir: Yours of the 6th to hand, and I see your intention of coming out here. You wanted to know about the wages. They are not very high in the winter time. I am only getting \$25 a month now, but the first of next month I will get \$30 a month.

You wanted to know about the place. I like it very much. It is healthful and the winter is not so cold as they say. We have had only four inches of snow; it came the last of November. It left the ground and has been steady weather, and I never saw as nice a winter in Michigan as they have

had here. Work will be plentiful next summer and wages will be good. The summer work will start in April.

You can suit yourself about when to come. It cost me \$22 to come here. If you bring something to eat on the train, you can come for \$20 each. I have answered all your questions, and you can suit yourself about coming. I have told you the truth about the place. I like it here and I will never go back to Michigan to live.

Your letter found us all well, and we were glad to hear from you. Bennie is working every day, and so is my father. They all like it here, and can make a better living than they could in Michigan.

(Signed.)

Yours truly,
Albert Dallman.

Kent, Iowa, October 18th, 1898.

Mr. McCreary.

Dear Sir: You wished me to submit my report to you as a delegates. After travelling over quite a portion of that vast country, I concluded that within a radius of thirty miles of Winnipeg was as good a place with small means as any location in the Northwest. The advantages to be derived from being in close proximity to that fine city, which undoubtedly will be to Western Canada what Chicago is to the United States of America. Winnipeg is the great railroad centre, and likely to be the main market of the great Northwest. There is as good a farming country in all directions from the city, within the space I have mentioned, as anywhere to be found in the known world. In speaking of it as such, because of its soil, and its products cannot be surpassed anywhere. If a man wants mixed farming, he can also have stock and grain. It is well-adapted for both, with plenty of good water at reasonable depths. Land is selling at reasonable prices and on easy terms of payment, which gives a man with a small capital and little headwork a good opportunity to pay for his land.

(Signed.)

Yours truly,
Andrew T. McFec,
Kent P. O., Union Co., Iowa.

Mr. McCreary.

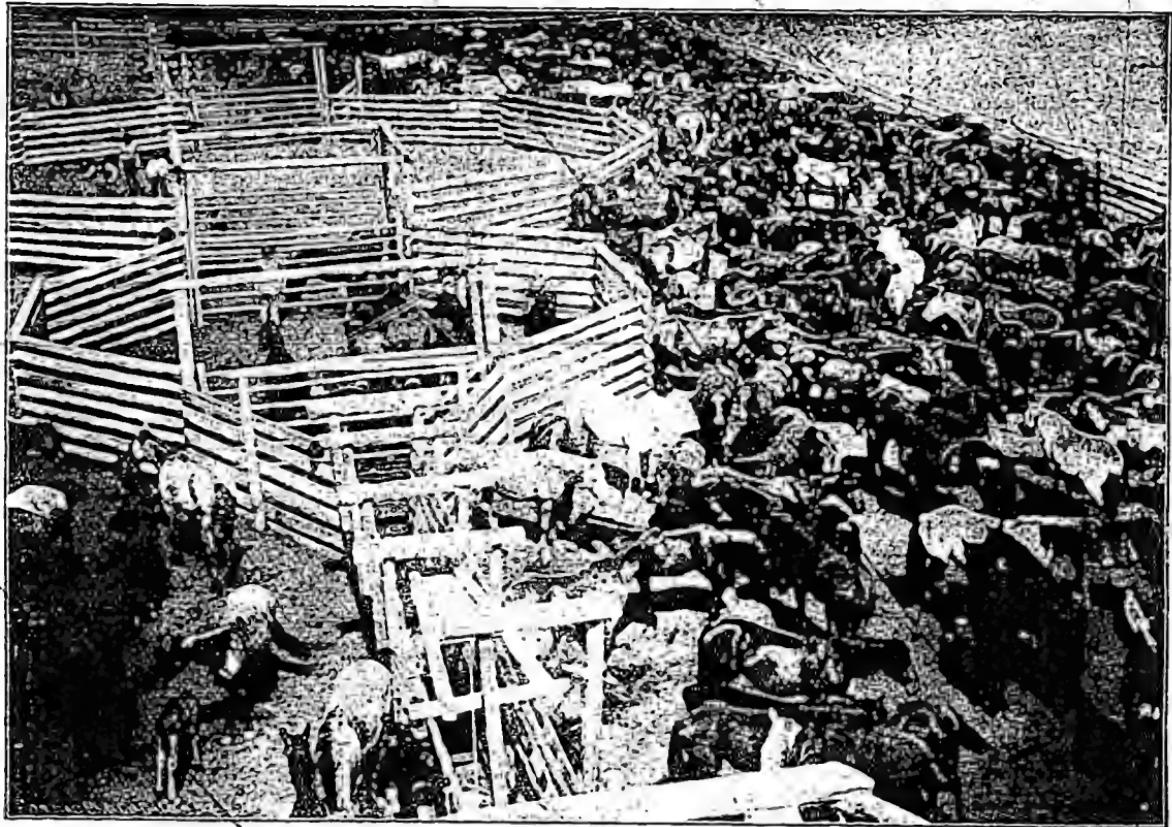
I have been working with all earnestness, endeavoring to persuade men who are merely making a living here. It will not be long until there will be quite an emigration from here. I think I can bring quite a number with me in the spring.

I bought an improved farm four miles west of LaSalle, with a prairie of 240; that makes 480 acres.

To the Editor of the People's Journal, Dundee.

Dear Sir: Having chanced to read a series of letters which appeared in your columns from the pen of Robert Duncan, ex-secretary of the Plowman's Association, and knowing from personal experience that such a narration is the worst possible that can be said of Manitoba or the Northwest, we shall esteem it a favor if you will place before your readers what we have done in the Northwest. There are six of us—

father and mother, three brothers and one sister. We came to Yorkton from Yorkshire in 1888, eleven years ago next March, with a capital of about \$2,500. We took up three homesteads and pre-emptions, and had no trouble whatever in obtaining what quarter sections we selected, needless to say which we thought best. We bought two yoke of oxen, broke up a considerable quantity of prairie with them, leaving the ladies of the household in a vacant house whilst the working members "roughed" it in a sod structure until the fall, by which time a log house had been built. We also bought half a dozen cows and a Shorthorn bull. We have gradually increased our farming operations, until now we have 250 acres under cultivation, and 140 head of high grade Shorthorn cattle, and your readers being mostly Scotch, it will perhaps interest them to know that all our herd bulls are the sons of sires from the Scotch breeders, Crickshanks, Duthie, Campbell and Marr. Besides the high grade cattle we have ten females of pure blood, and from these we supply other farmers and ranchers with calves, getting \$100 and \$150. This year we sold 30 head of grade cattle, receiving 31 cents live weight, two-year-old steers for export realizing \$40 per head. We had a crop of 75 acres of wheat, averaging 35 bushels an acre, which was sold at 50 cents and 75 cents, according to



R. J. ROBINSON'S CORRALS IN WESTERN CANADA

the fluctuations of markets. This year, having just threshed, the crop yielded 4,500 bushels from 175 acres, the wheat averaging 25 bushels to the acre, but the oats were rather lighter than usual. We have raised our own work horses, Clydesdales from mares, two purchased as fillies eight years since, and about twenty horses are in the stables and on the prairie. Our stallion is Scotch, a son of imported Lord Fitz-Erskine. We pay hired men from \$15 to \$30 per month. We sell cattle and grain for cash and pay hired men cash for their wages. From a monetary point of view our capital has increased three-fold since we left England. We have gone through all the rough day of the pioneer stage, but are now in comfortable circumstances, a good home and a bright future, and without meeting in *seriatim* Mr. Duncan's objections to Manitoba and the Northwest, we think that a brief outline of what has been done and what cannot be gainsay, is better for your readers than generalities on our great prairie home.

Yours truly,
Peaker Bros.

(Signed.)
Yorkton, N.W.T., Nov. 26th, 1898.

Bridge Creek, Man., Nov. 14th, 1898.

To the Agent of Dominion Lands, Minnedosa.

Dear Sir: I left Forfarshire, Scotland, in April, 1889, where I had farmed for the period of over thirty years, landing at Franklin station on 15th day of May with a capital of \$1,300. Had I left ten years earlier, would have come with £4,000 more than I did. In the old country the tenant farmers are bound in their leases to certain conditions and cannot get away honorably, although they see their means melting before their eyes, without consent of the landlord. My son, who came out the year previous, bought the north half of Section 16, Tp. 15, Rge. 16, the one quarter at \$5 per acre, the other at \$6—\$1,760. I erected a small frame house on the north-east quarter at a cost of \$800, and a log stable with loft at about \$100. This was all the buildings I had the first year. I bought a yoke of oxen for \$111, and a pony for \$75, a cow and heifer for \$45; all the implements I bought for the first two years was a one-horse wagon with shafts and pole, could

be used either with pony or oxen; an old breaking plow, stubble plow, break of harrows and a set of sleighs. We hired for the breaking of 16 acres the first spring. Being a very dry season, it was a poor crop; was obliged to cut it with the mower, collect it with the rake and thresh it with the flail, which gave me seed for the following year and flour. Had no hired help for the first three years. I hauled a set of logs every year for stables and a granary, till last year, when I put up a frame granary and implement shed, as well as made considerable additions and alterations to the dwelling house. Some years ago I got various tree seed from the experimental farm at Ottawa. They grew excellent; now I have a splendid wind-break around the buildings. The place is fenced all round with tamarac poles and barb wire, as well as a 45-acre pasture field. The farm is now all under cultivation, less the pasture field. This year we had 215 acres in crop, the balance in breaking and summer fallow; the yield would be about 25 bushels per acre. Our stock consists of 12 head of horses and 11 cattle, which I value at \$1,226, and a complete set of implements at \$608, land and buildings at \$7,000. The difference here of the value of the land in nine years looks big, but I have put it exactly at market value. I consider this country second to none in the world for farming. I believe mixed farming is the best, if well supplied with water (we have three wells on our property). Some would say you want hay. In reply to that I would just have green feed as ready. Timothy, Brome grass, or even native rye grass, can be grown successfully.

Any man farming here is bound to make money, if industrious and persevering. The foregoing is as plain and as brief as I could put it.

I remain,

Yours respectfully,

(Signed.) Alexander Miller.

Edna, Minnedosa, November 16th, 1898.
John Flesher, Esq., Agent Dominion Lands.

Sir: I came to Manitoba about the 20th July, 1888, from Liverpool, England, where I had been some years in business,

but formerly from the Lake District of Westmorland in the North of England.

After a few weeks looking over Manitoba and the Northwest, I finally purchased a farm of 160 acres at \$5 an acre, which I considered suitable for mixed farming (which, I think, is the soundest and safest line.) My family came out about the end of September the same year. I had sufficient capital to pay for my farm and most of the necessary machinery for working it. For five or six years we were not able to make much headway; steadily resisting the temptation and facilities for getting into debt, I hired very little help, but since that our prospects and position have year by year improved and the future looks still more hopeful. I own three quarter sections of land (480 acres) at the present; about 40 head of cattle and seven horses, and 80 acres broke. Crop this year—wheat, average 30 bushels per acre; oats, 45; barley, 42.

I am very well satisfied with the country and the change. I am confident that many of the young men from my native country, who can scarcely hope to rise above the position of farm servants, or tenant farmers, were to come out here they would soon be able to own farms.

I am, Sir,

Yours respectfully,

(Signed.) Richard Storey, J. P.

Franklin, November 21st. 1895.

Dear Sir: I came to this province in 1889 with about \$3,500. and by trade a carriage builder, and worked as a journeyman in London, Galt, Guelph and Toronto, and while, if I had an ample income, should still prefer a large city. I prefer the farm, with its modest share of independence, to the city, with my nose on the grindstone and my social position fixed largely by the street I lived in and the size of house I could rent.

I have about 240 acres under cultivation. Average yield of wheat this year, 28½ bushels per acre, but was much more on all fields not too often cropped, and I had no breaking or summer fallow. My present capital is about \$15,000. I have met with no serious reverse, except the big hailstorm of 1893,

which destroyed my best crop and the best one I have ever had. I have found my trade of very great advantage, enabling me to do all by own building and repairing. Should say that the great need of settlers is the ability to manage; the sound common sense to do without that which he does not absolutely need; the courage to get that which he ought to have. To the man who has a sound body and a sound head I should say come, whether he has money or not.

(Signed.)

John Kell.

Portage la Prairie, Man., October 23, 1898.

Dear Sir: I received your letter on Friday's mail and today thought I would answer. I will commence to answer your questions at once. I like this country well; so well that I would not think of going to the east to farm. I have not finished threshing yet, but will give you last year's yield. I sold 5,500 bushels of wheat, and had enough to seed 300 acres last spring. I expect 6,000 bushels this year. I have 480 acres of land. I have 12 work horses and one driver. I run a thresher and two binders; they are McCormick binders. Mowers are all right to bring; don't bring plows or harrows. Your wagon is all right to bring. Don't bring sleighs, unless they are 1-bench sleighs and long runners. Horses are cheap here, from \$100 to \$120 for eastern horses and \$30 to \$80 for western; they are good for \$80. Cows from \$25 to \$30. You want good heavy horses here, from 1,200 to 1,500 pounds. You can get homestead land in the Dauphin country; same in the Sawn River district. I think it a very good country. I don't know anything about Alberta, but it is prairie land. There is some scrub land in Manitoba, but they plow it with a scrub plow. This is a great place for stock. Sheep do well here, and I think pay well, but they want a lot of care; cows pay well. Butter is worth 15 to 20 cents per lb.; a calf is worth in the fall \$8 to \$15, according to quality and breed. They raise fine stock here. I think the best thing you could do would be to come out here yourself and see the country. If you could get here with a thousand dollars and your stock and family, you could buy improved land. It is quite a

chore to go on a prairie farm and build, and break land, and get the first year in. There is lots of land rented here, and they seem to be doing well. I would not advise you to come out here, but I am satisfied with the country. You could come out on a cheap excursion and travel to your heart's content and see. I will give you any assistance I can to see the country. There are lots of farmers here from Michigan, and they are doing well. Some of our neighbors are from Kingston, Michigan. I have two hired men all summer. You could run a big farm with your boys. Wages are good here in the summer. Men get \$20 per month, girls get \$10 and are scarce, as they marry quick here. There are lots of boys keeping batch here and farming. I don't see why you should not do well here. The land is easily worked after breaking and backsetting is done, and that is not very hard. I would be glad to see you come and see us. You can buy land here and pay a small payment down and give a share of crop each year until paid. You can buy any way you wish.

Some prices of implements:-

Wagons (Canadian)	\$70 00
Horse rake, 12 feet wide	35 00
Harrows, 16 feet wide	20 00
Mowers	70 00
Binders	135 00
14-inch plow	24 00
15-inch gang plow, with seat	65 00
Sleighs	25 00

Hay, \$4 to \$8 per ton. Straw is seldom used, it is burnt as soon as threshed. I could not tell you whether mixed farming pays better than wheat. I do not run a mixed farm, as I have to hire all help, and the expense is too much for labor. There are no orchards here. Apples are shipped in at a reasonable price. Small fruit is good here and does well. I have only been frozen once since I came here, in 19 years raising wheat. I will close with best respects to you and family.

Truly yours,

Marshall Tuck.

W. H. Franklin, Wilmott Co., Michigan.

Rosedale, November 26th, 1898.
To the Agent of Dominion Lands, Minnedosa, Man.

Sir. I am a native of County Tyrone, Ireland. Previous to coming to Manitoba, I had resided in Pennsylvania, U. S. I arrived in Manitoba, April 1st, 1882. Capital on arrival, \$200. Present capital about \$5,000. Acres under cultivation this year, 100; yield per acre, 25 bushels; oats, 40 bushels; barley, 35 bushels. I would say that I believe that this is a good country for a poor man to emigrate to, if he is possessed of good health and is not afraid of work. If he has not these qualities I would advise him to give this country a wide berth. If the Department considers my letter of any use, they can publish it; if not, all right.

I remain,

Yours respectfully,

(Signed.) W. C. Coulter, Neepawa.

P. S.—I might say that on arrival in this country my family consisted of wife and one child—now it consists of wife and seven children. (Quite an increase in capital.) W. C. C.

LIKE THE COUNTRY.

(Brown City, Mich., Banner.)

Brown City, Sanilac County, Michigan.

Friday, July 8th, 1898.

(Through the kindness of Mr. John Scott we are permitted to publish the following letter, which speaks volumes for the Canadian Northwest.)

Dauphin, Manitoba, June 7th, 1898.

Kind Friend Mr. Scott: Your most welcome letter came to hand a short time ago, and I assure you we were very much pleased to hear you were all well. We are quite well at present. Our dry spell of weather has been broken. On the first of June we had heavy rains, with some hail, which lasted till the 4th, and I tell you we are pretty well soaked up now. Crops are looking fine and pasture can't be beat. Cattle and horses are fat and sleek; it only takes about an hour to fill themselves. We are fencing father's place, which is seven miles from Dauphin. We will put up two miles of fence.

which is worth \$2.90. We have a nice lot of breaking done beside our oat ground. The land breaks easy, two horses can break two acres a day, but I use three and plow a 16-inch furrow. It fairly makes me laugh sometimes when I see the width of the furrow I am turning.

Horses and cattle are very scarce here. Cows are worth \$45 and \$50, and two-year-olds, \$40 and \$45. We are living in our new house. We are on the corner of the farm about five rods from the river. We have good neighbors just across the road. One owns 480 acres all paid for, and has no family. It is well settled all around here. We like it here splendid. Several of the farmers here tell us they are better satisfied with this part of Manitoba than any place they ever saw, and some of them have been all through the Western States, even to California, and Ontario; and there are some here from Michigan. One man came here a week ago from California and bought one and one-half miles from us. The settlers here tell us the winters are not half so severe or cold. The snow don't drift. Work has started on the new railroad. It is their intention to build it to Fort Churchill, near the Saskatchewan river, on the Hudson Bay. The road will open up a large territory of good land. Besides, it will make a better market even than Winnipeg. It will make a shorter route to Liverpool by over 500 miles. The farmers are feeling greatly pleased about it. Land is increasing in value very fast. The road has been surveyed across one corner of our place at Fork river, and they intend building a station near it. Milton, Fred and Burton will all be within one mile of a station. Milton and Fred have entered for the west half of Section 28, and Burton has the n. e. quarter of Section 20, Tp. 29, Range 21 west. If you look on a map that shows the sections, you can find just where we have located. There are some very fine places to be got there yet; good soil, with plenty of hay and pasture, and good water, and just enough timber for building and wood. The land is very easy cleared. They say to just start a fire and it will clear itself. We have each a good log stable on our places, also shanties. I think if you intend coming here, you should do so as soon as possible, as there is quite a rush of settlers all the time. The

land office is crowded with people seeking homesteads. If you would come now, you might get a choice quarter near the railroad, which is a great advantage here. We live only seven miles from town, but it takes over half a day to make a trip there and back and do our trading. I think I have given you as good a description of the country here as I possibly can at present. The country suits us well and we intend to stay, so if you come, and it don't suit you, you surely will not blame us for bringing you here, but I feel quite satisfied you will be well suited if you come. We were surprised to hear that Ed. Garnett and Will Windsor had pluck enough to go to war. How is Tom Morris getting along and how are his crops.

Very truly,

B. Clark & Sons.

Virden, Manitoba, June 25th, 1898.

Mr. Benjamin Davies, 154 East Third Street,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir: I have arrived in Manitoba and am very much pleased with the country, and have taken up a claim. The land is good and I am especially thankful to the Board of Trade of Virden, who helped me a great deal (in fact, all in their power). They are a great help to a stranger, and do anything to help settle the country. I shall go back east and bring up a car load of effects and settle here. There is also plenty of land for other settlers.

Thanking you for the favors done to me, I am,

Respectfully,

(Signed.)

J. W. Wulf.

Box 483, Brandon, Man., July 26, 1898.

Dear Sir: On my return from Winnipeg Fair I found your letter waiting. As regards my opinion of this country, I can give you it in a very few words. Canada is a good field for the better class of English and Scotch farmers, and men who have families can do well in this country; also young men who have been used to farm work, and farm laborers. Gentlemen's sons, who have had a university education are no use

and do more harm to this country than any other class of emigrant. One or two points where the Canadian farmer has the advantage over the English and Scotch. Land cheaper; necessities of life cheaper; climate healthy; his market will improve whilst the old country market is bound to drop. Disadvantages — Labor dear; winter severe.

If we could do away with a few months of winter this would be the best country in the world. Anything I can assist in I shall be only too happy.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. S. Macmillan.

PROSPEROUS WELSH FARMERS IN WESTERN CANADA.

(Reprinted from the "Western Mail," April 27th, 1898.)

Mr. W. L. Griffith, the Canadian Government Agent in Wales, has had forwarded to him by the Immigration Department at Ottawa, the following letter from a Welsh settler, whom our Special Commissioner was unable to see, but whose daughter gave some interesting particulars of the happy experiences of the family in Canada. The letter is as follows:—

Marlais Farm, Dugald,
" Winnipeg, Manitoba,
March 7th, 1898.

" Dear Sir: I am very sorry that my son and I were from home when Mr. Hislop drove out here at your request, to bring us in to have an interview with Mr. Davies, of Wales, but still we hope that my daughter was able to give all the information desired instead.

" I think that you requested me a short time ago to give you an account of our proceedings since our arrival in this country, and, therefore, in fulfilment of my promise, I write this letter, a copy of which I am also sending to Mr. Davies.

" We left the Old Country just eighteen months ago, and bought this farm of 160 acres, situated about twelve miles from Winnipeg, for which we gave \$1,400.

" To procure stock to start with, we purchased ten cows and

four horses, besides the required implements. Last year we had 50 acres under cultivation, and, being our first year, it turned out very successfully, and we had a yield of 600 bushels of wheat, 500 bushels of oats, and 450 bushels of barley. This total, together with our dairy, pigs, and other produce, brought an income of about \$1,400.

" Since then we have more than doubled the number of our stock, being that we now have 25 head of cattle, besides pigs and poultry, and our working power consists of five horses and a yoke of oxen, and we have felt so encouraged by our last year's success and prospects for the future that we have bought an adjoining farm, so that now we own 320 acres of land. Therefore, we expect to have considerably more land under crop next year, and when both farms are broken up, we expect to have about 200 acres for grain and cultivation and about 120 acres for hay and pasture. We have also built additional buildings, and the present value of our land, buildings, stock, crop, and, implements is about \$7,500; equal to £7,500.

" Manitoba is, undoubtedly, a country with a great future, and it has one of the healthiest climates in the world, and we believe that any man with courage and industry can do well here, particularly those with small capital to start with, as they can have the advantage of buying improved farms in the neighborhood of Winnipeg or some other town, where they can obtain a ready market for their produce.

" We would like to impress upon intending settlers not to be daunted with trifling obstacles, but to come out here with a determination to push forward and overcome the small difficulties with which new settlers have invariably to contend. Now, I think I have said all, and if you should publish this, or use it to promote the interests of immigration, will you kindly emphasize that this information is given at your own special request? I remain,

" Yours very sincerely,
" (Signed.)
" W. F. McCrea, Esq.
" Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg."

David Jones.

Griswold, September 30th, 1898.

Sir: At the request of C. W. Speers, I submit to you a report of the wheat grown on my farms this year, viz., the s. half 1, 10, 23 and 31; 9, 22. I had 450 acres of wheat and threshed 11,000 bushels of No. 1 Hard wheat; my crop has always been good.

I am two miles from Griswold P. O. My oats, potatoes and vegetables are very good.

I sold last year's crop last week for 81 cents, but have not disposed of this year's crop yet.

(Signed.)

W. J. Young.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg.

Griswold, September 30th, 1897.

Sir: At the request of C. W. Speers, I beg to submit to you a report of the wheat grown by me this year in the Griswold district on Section 1, 10, 23, and Section 4, 10, 22. I had 500 acres of wheat on this land, and threshed 10,500 bushels of No. 1 Hard Red Fife wheat, or an average of 21 bushels per acre. I have sold about 8,000 bushels, 5,000 at 80 cents and 3,000 at 78 cents clear.

My farm is three miles from Griswold, and has been since 1884 all that could be desired; no failures, but good paying crops every year, and sometimes extra good.

(Signed.)

Allan Young.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg.

Griswold, September 30th, 1897.

Sir: I, Samuel Hanna, at the request of C. W. Speers, for the Immigration Department of the Dominion Government, take pleasure in giving the following report, to be forwarded to W. F. McCreary, Commissioner of Immigration.

I have harvested and threshed on my farm, Sec. 7, 10, 22, and Sec. 12, 10, 23, in the Municipality of Whitehead, Griswold P. O. twelve thousand bushels (12,000) of No. 1 Hard Red Fife wheat, which would yield about 20 bushels per acre, and have sold a portion of this wheat for about 80 cts.

on track at Griswold, and could have sold all at same price.

My farm is three miles from Griswold on the main line of the C. P. R. The oat crop is at present being threshed, and already sufficient evidence of 50 bushels to the acre is available. I will have about 5,000 bushels of oats. My potato crop is excellent, and also Swede turnips. Corn and vegetables have exceeded by expectations and are all that could be desired.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed.) Samuel Hanna.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg.

Griswold, September 30th, 1897.

Sir: At the request of C. W. Speers, I cheerfully give the following information for the Immigration Department of the Dominion Government:—

My farm is about five miles north of Griswold. I had 300 acres of wheat, which yielded 21 bushels per acre, or I threshed 8,200 bushels of wheat No. 1 hard.

I sold about 4,000 bushels at 81 cents net. My potatoes and vegetables are good; my crop has always been good.

(Signed.) William J. Good.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg.

Griswold, September 30th, 1897.

Sir: At the request of C. W. Speers, of the Department of Immigration, I take pleasure in submitting to you a report of my crop grown on the south half 35, 9, 23, Griswold P. O., one mile from Griswold.

I had 220 acres of wheat, from which I threshed 5,700 bushels, about 26 bushels per acre, of No. 1 Hard Red Fife. I sold the same for 79 cents per bushel, but held too long, as I refused 81 cents for the same, after keeping all the wheat in my granary I require for seed, bread and more than I require. I was paid by the Lake of the Woods Milling Co., in cash, \$4,207.00. This was all grown on the above half section. I also have about 1,000 bushels of oats on the same

land, and my root crop, although small in average, is excellent.

I came from Prince Edward Co., Ontario, in the spring of 1889, and bought this half section for \$3,800. My crop has always been good. In 1890 I sold enough to pay in full for the farm, having that year 6,400 bushels of wheat. This year my farm would pay all expenses and more than pay the original price in net profit.

Yours very respectfully.

(Signed.)

G. A. Trumper.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg.

Griswold, September 30th, 1897.

Sir: At the request of C. W. Speers, I submit a report of the yield of wheat I had this year, 1897, on my farm, east half 36, 9, 23, one mile from Griswold P. O.

I had 260 acres of wheat and threshed 5,000 bushels of No. 1 Hard Red Fife. I homesteaded this land in 1881; started with no capital; have bought two other farms near me, have them all paid for. Have last year's wheat unsold, as well as this.

Good stone barn, all buildings good; have 20 horses, 50 cattle, 30 hogs, and, although not boasting nor a millionaire, have made my money farming in Manitoba and don't want to go to the Klondyke. I am doing well enough.

(Signed.) Thomas Ingham.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg.

Griswold, September 30th, 1897.

Sir: I take pleasure, at the request of C. W. Speers, of giving a report of the yield of wheat on my farm, west half 36, 9, 23, one mile from Griswold.

I had 135 acres of wheat and threshed 3,580 bushels of No. 1 Hard Red Fife wheat.

I came from Ontario Co., Ontario, in 1890. I paid \$11 per acre for this half section of land. My crop has always been good. The lowest crop of wheat I ever threshed off this land

was 16 bushels and the highest was 35 bushels to the acre all round.

My place has been very successful. My oat crop is good; my potatoes are good. I have not sold my wheat, this year's production.

(Signed.)

George Michie.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg.

Grindstone City, Huron Co., Michigan,

November 1st, 1897.

Through the kindness of D. L. Caven, of Bad Axe, Mich., Colonization Agent for the Canadian Northwest, I was chosen as one of the delegates to go and see the Canadian Northwest Territories. We landed in Winnipeg on the 16th day of August last. This is a very pretty city and is the largest in the province. The land around it is fertile. There were the finest vegetables in the market I have ever seen, such as cauliflower, onions, potatoes, cabbage, carrots, etc. As we proceeded west, on either side of the railroad, as far as we could see, there were great fields of waving wheat. There are stations at an average of nine miles apart. They all have elevators, some two, and I have counted as many as five at one station. Some are owned by farmers. They form a company and put up one, thus they can hold their wheat for higher prices. Schools and churches are convenient and well established. Portage la Prairie is a very progressive town. It is in the heart of the wheat belt of Manitoba. We went from here to Dauphin. This is a fine country and is settling rapidly. The railroad runs 150 miles through it. It is well watered with lakes and rivers; is well adapted to stock and grain raising. There is plenty of government land here. In this district there is a town called Dauphin; it is ten months old and has 500 of a population, and is well wooded. Brandon, on the main line of the C. P. R., is a city of importance, and is called the Wheat City, but they manufacture lumber there. At the time of our visit there was five million feet of logs in the

river and a saw mill running day and night. The government has an experimental farm here, where they raise all kinds of grain; peas were the best I have seen. The gentleman in charge is an experienced farmer and understands what he is doing. He treated us very kindly and spared no pains in showing us the farm. I next called on Major Kelly, who lives north of Brandon seven miles, a neighbor of mine in Ontario. I asked him about the winters, and he told me he did not mind them any more than he did in the County of Lambton. He has a fine farm. I called on Mr. Joseph Hillis, formerly of Lambton County, Ontario. He said he would not go back to Ontario if he would get his farm back for nothing, and he was a good farmer in Ontario. There are places on the main line that I have not time to write about at present, such as Regina, Medicine Hat, and so on. The next place I shall mention is Calgary. It is a fine town near the mountains. It is built of stone and brick principally. We left Calgary at 8 o'clock a.m. for Edmonton. We went 200 miles through an excellent country for farming, cattle raising and ranching. We could count cattle by the thousand along the line. There are stations every ten miles, and they are quite sized villages. Butter and cheese is plentiful here. The government put up the creameries and the patrons are well satisfied. North Edmonton is a fine place, with substantial buildings. All the latest improvements, electric lights, good flouring mills, saw mills, sash and door factories. It is the best farming country, sixty miles around Edmonton, according to my judgment, of any place in the territory. It is all good, but this would be my choice, as the climate is warmer and the grass is better. There is plenty of wood and coal; fine rivers and lakes. Fort Saskatchewan is no mean town. There is a good flouring mill; was running day and night. The wheat was especially good in this district. They have a good school and churches. Gold is found in the bottom of the river.

There is plenty of land, both government and to be home-steaded; C. P. R. to be settled at \$3 per acre. I have not said half as much as I would like to concerning these parts, but my report may be too long. Any man who is well enough off and contented in Michigan, let him stay. But any one who wishes

to better himself, let him go to Alberta, or Dauphin, Manitoba. The country far exceeds my expectations.

I remain, sincerely,

John S. McDonald.

Carman, Manitoba, February 14th, 1898.

Mr. Adam Sharp, Ludington.

Dear Adam: Yours of the 6th to hand, and I see your intention of coming out here. You wanted to know about the wages. They are not very high in the winter time. I am only getting \$25 a month now, but the first of next month I will get \$30 a month.

You wanted to know about the place. I like it very much. It is healthful and the winter is not so cold as they say. We have had only four inches of snow; it came the last of November. It left the ground and has been steady weather, and I never saw as nice a winter in Ludington as we have had here.

Work will be plentiful next summer and wages will be good. The summer work will start in April.

You can suit yourself about when to come. It cost me \$22 to come here. If you bring something to eat on the train, you can come for \$20 each, if you get your certificate from Mr. Cockburn.

I have answered all your questions and you can suit yourself about coming. I have told you the truth about the place. I like it here and I will never go back to Ludington to live.

Your letter found us all well and we were glad to hear from you. Bennie is working every day, so is my father. They all like it here, and can make a better living than they could in Ludington.

Yours truly,
(Signed.) Albert Dallman.

Yorkton, October 27th, 1898.

James Armstrong, Esq., Toronto Ont.

Replying to yours of the 7th inst. re German settlers. I beg to say that the settlers are all doing first-class. Not one of them had anything when they came in here seven or eight years ago. Now they all have a large portion of their land

broken up and have from fifteen to seventy-five head of cattle each and from two to ten and twelve horses, all implements necessary to work their land, and a great many have bought hay quarters this year. There has been a great deal of land broken this season. The grain is good and very little hurt with frost. I would recommend any man who wants to make a start in life to come to this district.

Four truly,
(Signed.) Wilhelm Jonzen.
(Influential German, living near Yorkton, N.W.T.)

Yorkton, Assa., Canada, Nov. 17th. 1898.
J. S. Crerar, Esq., Government Immigration Agent, Yorkton

J. S. Crerar, Esq., Government Immigration Agent, Yorkton.

Dear Sir: In keeping with a promise I made you when I came here this spring, I will give you a report of how I find and like this country. Perhaps it might not be out of place to mention in passing that I was born at Bury, Lancashire, England, January 30th, 1848. I lived in England till June 2nd, 1881, when I sailed from Liverpool to this country. I am an engineer and machinist and worked at my trade in Canada till 1887, when I moved into the U. S. A. I worked at my trade for seven years there, after which I turned my attention to farming. My early days being spent on the farm, I was not a stranger to the work, but the elements played such havoc with my crops the last three years I was in Minnesota, that I came away \$3,000 worse off than I should have been had I come away three years sooner. This spring I came as a delegate from the State of Minnesota, to look over the N. W. T. for a suitable place for myself and some of my neighbors. As you will remember, I was on my way to Edmonton when I met with you in Winnipeg. The talk we had caused me to look up the Yorkton district first. The prospect here was so satisfactory to me that I located at once, hurried home and shipped stock and implements so as to get a crop in, which was simply splendid. We are late with threshing, only finishing to-day. We have 2,000 bushels of as fine oats as can be found anywhere. Our wheat was good, but only a small quantity, as it was more of an experiment than anything else. Our garden truck was the best, I think, we ever had, but the natural advan-

tages that are to be found in this country for raising stock are so numerous that it would seem as though it were specially made for it, either on a large or small scale. I am well pleased with my change; sorry I did not come sooner.

Thanking you for your kindness, I am, Sir,

Yours respectfully,
(Signed.) Thomas Kirkland,
Wallace. Yorkton, Assa.

Winnipeg, 15th December, 1898.

I came to Western Canada in 1888, and, being pleased with it, took up land before I returned, at Sintaluta and returned from Ontario the following year with my family, a carload-of-effects, but with very little money. I had a large family of ten boys and five girls, and therefore had no light load to carry, but some of my boys being grown up, and with their assistance and determined tenacity and perseverance and sobriety, we gradually got ahead. We now own seven sections of land, the bulk of it being under cultivation. We raised 30,000 bushels of No. 1 hard wheat this year, summer fallowing running to 40 bushels per acre, and sustained no loss from wet, but only from the shaking out of a small quantity of grain in the stack, as we never stack, having our own thresher. We have forty horses and a considerable head of stock, and our total belongings, at a reasonable estimate, we place as worth to-day between \$75,000 and \$100,000. I am well pleased in every way with the country, but a man must be sober and industrious and attend closely to business to succeed. This, with common sense, barring accident, will pull any family through in this country.

(Signed.) J. T. Partridge

Insinger P. O., Assa., N. W. T., Nov. 12, 1898.

Dear Sir: I was born in Clackmannanshire, Scotland, came to the State of Massachusetts, 1870; from there to South Dakota, in 1883, with \$3,500; lost nearly all that I did have trying to grow grain, and worked hard all the time. I arrived in Yorkton in May, 1892, with seven head of cattle and four

horses; two horses died the first year. I put up all the hay I could and took in nine head of cattle to winter, and five horses in March until May, which tided me over the winter. The second summer I put up all the hay I could and took in more cattle to winter and have done the same every year, but this year my stock has increased so that I can't take in any more, having over 60 head of my own. Wages here are good. Farmers pay \$25 per month through haying, and I had a man at my house to-day offering men \$1.50 per day without board.

I am well pleased with the country. We get all the good dry wood we want for the hauling home, which we get within half a mile from my own place; all the hay we can roll up for our stock, and not one cent of taxes to pay. I have barns for all my cattle and horses, and they are good barns. They did not cost me a cent, except a few nails for my doors. They are built of logs; we haul them home on the sleighs in the winter time. I have also a good comfortable house, built of logs; all the expense I was out on it was for windows, floors and nails.

I think Assiniboia Territory is a good place for a working man to come to, with a little capital to invest in a few cows.

(Signed.) Robert Lawrie.

TESTIMONY OF A SCOTCH SETTLER IN CANADA.

Mr. Peter Horn, farmer, Regina, N. W. T., who is now visiting friends at Kirknewton, Midlothian, has written to Mr. John Grant, Canadian Government Agent, Dumfries, as follows:

Dear Sir: As to the advantages of Canada as a field for settlers of the agricultural class, I will give you my own experience. I emigrated to Canada when I was 18 years of age. Noon after arrival I was at work.

After working for three months I had made good the expenses of my journey from the old country to Canada, and in five years and two months I had earned in wages, in addition to board, from farmers with whom I work, \$1,015, or about £209.

In July, 1886, I visited the old country, and in October of that year returned to Ottawa, where I remained four years, receiving \$30 per month, without board.

In 1890 I went west to Regina, and commenced farming on a free grant of 160 acres of land, a grant which I consider equal to a gift of £100 to a settler, and I must say I don't regret it. I have had excellent crops—wheat, 35 bushels per acre; oats, 70 bushels, and with the prices received for the 1897 crop I can now live in independence.

I have 153 acres under cultivation, and intend to buy more land as I require it. I have six horses; raised four colts last year and two this year. I pay no rent and no taxes, and consider my land second to none in the world for wheat growing.

I only state facts here, and my advice to intending emigrants is to go to Manitoba or the Northwest Territories. Regina is the best place I have struck yet. Don't commence farming at first until you get into the ways of the country and the methods of farming there. Work out for a year or so.

Provisions are as cheap as in Britain; beef costs only half as much, while wages are double.

Good horses, 5 years old, cost £20 to £25; cows, £5 to £7.

There is plenty of free pasture and cattle can live out all the year round.

I have rented my farm this season, and have been in this country since the end of November, but intend returning to Regina in July.

I have just received a letter from Canada, saying that one of my neighbors at Regina sold 1,200 bushels of wheat at Fort William for \$1.20 per bushel, or £2 per quarter; another had some left over from seeding, and got \$1.15 per bushel for it at Regina. The crops on my place were never looking better for the time of year.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed.) Peter Horn.

Alameda, N. W. T., September 12th, 1897.
Mr. M. V. McInnes, Canadian Government Agent, Detroit.

Dear Sir: I desire to inform you that the three parties sent by you from Saginaw arrived here and have taken up land.

Mr. McEwan drove them out. They are highly pleased with the location, and for the present have gone to work in the harvest for \$1.50 per day and board.

There are a great many questions asked as to the temperature here in winter. Some are under the impression that it is exceedingly cold. As I learn from those who have lived here for a number of years, while the temperature is lower, still, on account of the dry atmosphere, the cold is not felt as much by far as it is in Detroit. These people all look hardy and healthy; have wintered it and come out all right, so I don't see why we and our friends cannot.

Those others whom you write are coming this fall; let them delay no longer than possible, as they can select their land much better now than after the snow flies.

With kindest regards, and hoping to hear from you, I am,
Your friend.

Fred Muller.

DO NOT LET THIS CHANCE SLIP BY.

Alameda, N.W.T., August 31st, 1897.

Dear Friends of Saginaw: Those desiring to secure a good and sure home will do well to take our advice and examine the land in the neighborhood of Alameda, as we know that everyone who sees this land will be agreeably surprised. Before seeing this land we were partly in doubt as to moving here, but after looking it over we at once decided to make our home here, and we beg those of our friends who are desirous of securing farms not to let this chance slip by, as the soil is of the best and the water cannot be excelled. The finest wheat we ever saw is also raised here.

We shall return home in haste, straighten out our affairs and move here at once.

Yours truly,
William Gottowski,
Albert Mai,
William Riedel,
Of Saginaw.

LIKE THAT OF THURINGEN IN GERMANY

Winnipeg, Man., September 10th, 1897.
Mr. M. V. McInnes, Chief Colonization Agent,
Detroit, Mich.

Dear Sir: We are pleased to state to you that we have found the country in the vicinity of Alameda fully up to what you and Mr. Kellar had represented it to be. It is, in fact, an ideal location for mixed farming. The soil is the best we ever saw, and as the farmers were all busy at threshing, we had an excellent chance to see its productive quality, which cannot be surpassed anywhere. The cattle could not be in better condition. We saw two-year-old steers equal to three-year-old raised in most places, and these, as all others, are about Alameda, were fed on native hay in winter and herded in summer. As we had previous to this visited the Northwestern States in behalf of a large number of farmers, to locate suitable land for mixed farming, we are now in a position to say that the Alameda district of Western Canada surpasses them all. The country is equal to that about Thuringen in Germany. We were rather sceptic before starting, and our intentions to settle in spring, if we were suited, but we have now decided to move at once—that is, as early this fall as we possibly can. We left Mr. Riedel at Alameda, and take back his report, and we will take his family and effects with us when we go.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed.)

Albert Mai,
Fred Gottowski.

Yorkton, Assa., October 28th, 1897.
W. F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg.

Sir: I am a German from Russian-Poland. I came to the Northwest in the spring of 1879. I came to the Yorkton district on the 12th day of June of said year. I took up a homestead in what is now called the Ebenezer Colony, 14 miles north of Yorkton. I had only \$10 cash when I landed in

Yorkton. I have now under cultivation 55 acres of land ready for crop. I have 30 head of horned cattle, 4 horses, pigs, and over 100 barnyard fowls, with all the machinery required for farm purposes.

I like the country awful good, and it is the place for a poor man and I fully recommend this district to my countrymen, and would advise intending emigrants to locate in this district. I am now worth at least \$2,000, and any man who will and is willing to work, can do as well as I have done. I am,

Yours truly,

(Signed.)

John Fenske.

Yorkton, Assa., October 28th, 1897.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg.

Sir: I am a German, who came from Russia in the spring of 1890. I worked one year in the City of Winnipeg. I then moved to the Yorkton district in 1891 and took up a homestead, s. w. half of Section 16, Tp. 27, Range 4. I had only \$100 when I landed in Yorkton. I have now 45 acres under cultivation. In 1896 I had over 2,000 bushels of grain. I have this year over 1,000 bushels, not having as much land under crop. I have now 19 head of cattle, two horses and colt, ten pigs and a lot of chickens and other fowl. I now am worth at least \$1,500. I like the country, and it is the place for a poor man, and I can fully recommend this district to emigrants who have small means and are willing to work.

(Signed.)

Casper Nebrant.

(Translation.)

Glenmary, Sask., November 4th, 1898.

Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg.

I am confident Scandinavians will find themselves satisfied with this country, providing they are in search of a home in the Northwest. I have found no one yet who is willing to work who could not do better here than any other place that I have been. I can safely state that this place is ahead of Alberta for mixed farming. Although I have not seen Alberta myself, but I have conversed with a number of those who

have and who have afterwards settled here perfectly satisfied.

Myself and those who came with me are well pleased with this country, and would not return to the place we came from in North Dakota, U. S. A., for any money. I arrived here four years ago and settled in Tp. 47, Range 21, west of 2nd meridian, which is on the south side of the South Saskatchewan river. The land is generally rolling, with few poplar bluffs; hay meadows, large and small, are found everywhere, and a few small lakes, with occasional ravines or creeks, furnish convenient water for stock.

We can grow any kind of grain and vegetables which can be grown in Manitoba. I have raised wheat ever since I came to the place, and it has not been frozen. I understood before removing to this country that grain would not ripen before freezing. Such is not the case, but in this, like many other places, the wheat requires to be sown in the spring and not in the summer. The quantity varies from 7 to 30 bushels of wheat per acre, oats 20 to 70, barley about 40 bushels, and potatoes 300 bushels per acre. Hay in large quantities of the very best kind.

I have five miles to pine timber, where all kinds of building material can be procured. Logs can be sawn for \$5.00 per 1,000 feet, and shingles cost \$2.50 per 1,000.

For those who have not enough work on their own land, and require to earn wages, plenty of work can be had with the older wealthy farmers, of whom there are a number in this district. At Prince Albert employment can also be obtained with one of the two lumber companies, who take out logs during the winter. Opportunities are also afforded for chopping wood and teaming, also fishing on the many lakes north of here.

I will say to my countrymen (I am a Norwegian) who are looking for a home, come here, and you will be able to find a piece of land satisfactory to your expectations, no matter how critical you may be.

There is possibly much more that could be said about a new country like this, in order to satisfy land-hunters, but I will advise them to come and see for themselves, and they will find it as I have stated. I will always be ready to answer any direct questions to the best of my ability, and trust that with

your assistance enough Scandinavians will join this settlement to enable us to organize a church and school district.

Very respectfully,
(Signed.) Christian Boe,
Glen Mary P. O., Sask., Canada.

Prince Albert, 18th May, 1898.

D. C. McLellan, Esq., President Board of Trade.

Dear Sir: I entered a homestead and pre-emption (total 320 acres) in 1886, and went on to the claim and commenced farming in the spring of 1888. I had no capital whatever in starting. I had, of course, the usual difficulties attending a man situated as I was for want of means—I remained constantly on my place ever since, working it as best I could, and at the present time I have the entire farm enclosed with a good rail, wire-bound, fence, and two cross fences, or a total of four miles of first-class fencing, not counting small dividing fences. I have 150 acres under cultivation, 11 horses, 16 milch cows, 26 head of other horned cattle, a threshing outfit (horsepower) value \$600, two self-binders, one mower, one rake, one gang plow, two walking plows, one seeding machine, two sets harrows, one set disc harrows, one roller, one fanning mill, and all necessary tools for farm use. Also one wagon, one democrat wagon, two sets sleighs, five sets harness.

All the above-mentioned property has been accumulated by me since 1888. I have received no assistance from other sources, but have paid for everything from the proceeds of the farm.

I can confidently recommend the country as being healthy; food, water and hay in abundance in most localities. The weather is never so severe as to prevent working during the entire winter. I have never had a failure of crop since starting. No other trade or calling would have given me the accumulative amount of wealth with which I am surrounded, except farming.

Any man of ordinary capital and determination to succeed must get on in the country.

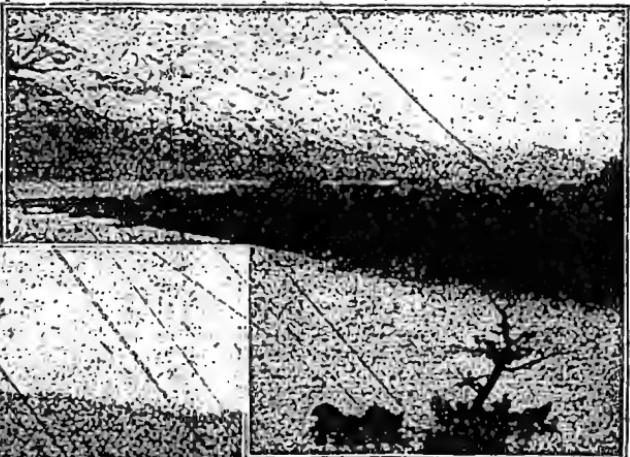
Your obedient servant,
(Signed.) James Sinclair.

Colleston, Sask., June 6th, 1898.
To the President of the Prince Albert Board of Trade.

In reply to your request for a letter regarding my experience in this country, I have pleasure in stating that I came here from Middlesex, Ontario, in 1879, and settled in my present home, $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the town of Prince Albert. I had only a small capital to begin with, but I believe I could nowhere have invested it to better advantage. I now own five quarter sections (800 acres) of land, 80 acres of which are under cultivation this year; 60 acres of this is in wheat. I am also pasturing about 200 head of cattle of my own. From my experience I am able to say that this country is excellently adapted for mixed farming and for stock raising. I have never had a failure of crop. Last year off 60 acres I raised 2,500 bushels of first-class grain. Potatoes and root crops can be raised in great abundance, and grow to a very large size and are of the best quality. Potatoes of 2 to 3 lbs. are common, and an acre will yield 400 bushels. There are no potato bugs here, and rats are also unknown. Neither are there any Canada thistles. Native hay can be obtained throughout this district in large quantities. It grows wild, and all that is necessary is to go out and cut it. It is of good quality, and cattle wintered upon it come out in first-class condition in the spring. I have also found abundance of fuel. Jack pine is plentiful, and can be had for the cutting and drawing, and is good wood. Timber for building and fencing is also plentiful and easily obtainable. Water of the best quality I can get anywhere by digging ten or twelve feet. The winters are long, but steady and pleasant, and they are not so severe as has been reported. There is not a day in winter in this section that a man cannot drive upon the road or engage in outdoor work, if he wishes. I have wintered cattle out of doors, allowing them to run about my straw stacks, and they have come through in fine condition. This is quite customary here. I am well satisfied with this country and believe that young or energetic men coming in here with capital of \$500 and upwards and can make themselves more comfortable in two years than in ten years in the older countries. Within a mile we have a good school, and within three miles we have English, Presbyterian and Metho-



Freight Wagons at Yale, British Columbia.



View of Kaslo, British Columbia.

dist church services. The roads are excellent and dry up quickly after rain, so that travelling is pleasant and easy. In this neighborhood we have a flourishing temperance society and active tennis, football and baseball clubs, and other means of social recreation and enjoyment. I have now a very comfortable home, and have every reason to be glad that I settled here and to be satisfied with what I have done.

(Signed.)

John McFadden.

McDowall Settlement, Saskatchewan, June 6, 1898.

To the President of the Prince Albert Board of Trade.

Dear Sir: Replying to your request for the result of my experience in this district, I would say that when I came here from Ireland, over twenty years ago, I had less than \$200 capital with which to start. For a few years I worked in a lumber mill, and then took up a half section (320 acres), where I now reside, 12 miles from Prince Albert. Before I came here I had travelled through the principal sections of Ontario, but I found vegetation more luxuriant here than in any other section I had seen, and the soil was at least equally as good. I therefore decided to settle here. I have since worked my farm, which lies on the banks of the Saskatchewan river, and added to it from time to time until now I own altogether 2,570 acres of land in this neighborhood. Six hundred and forty acres (one section) is in the block on which my house and buildings stand, and is all fenced in. Of this there is now under cultivation 180 acres; 140 of this is in crop this year, 100 acres in wheat and the balance in oats. I own 130 head of cattle and 20 horses and a full equipment of implements and harvesting machinery. I never could have accomplished this in the old country and am very glad that I ever settled in here. I have always found a satisfactory market at Prince Albert. Last year I sold 2,700 bushels of wheat at an average of 65c. a bushel. This I raised off 100 acres. I also sold cattle last year to the value of \$520. There is always a ready sale for cattle here, and the country is well adapted for profitable stock raising. Fuel, water and timber are readily obtainable, and I know no country better suited for the thrifty settler with small capital. I have never raised any hay, the natural hay

growing here every year being sufficient for all purposes. In every respect I like the country and can recommend it confidently to intending settlers.

A. Landand.

Colleston Settlement, June 6th, 1898.
To the President of the Prince Albert Board of Trade.

Dear Sir: In answer to your questions as to what success I have met with in farming in this country, I would say that I settled here with very small capital when I was about twenty years of age. I broke up my first twelve acres of land in 1891, just seven years ago. I now have 65 acres in crop and I own 70 head of cattle and six good horses. I also own bintier purchased last year, wagon, top-buggy, mower, rake, plows and all necessary farming implements. I have also erected a roomy and comfortable house, good stable, granary and other outbuildings. I own a quarter section of land, all well fenced. The soil is a dark, sandy loam, well adapted for wheat raising. I know no better country than this for mixed farming and stock raising. I came here from the north of Ireland, and could not possibly have done there what I have done here. A young man of industry, whose capital is small, can do here in a short time what he never could do in the old country. I am well satisfied with this country in every way and with the progress I have made in it. The climate, I like better than the climate of Ireland. It is drier, clearer, more bracing and more healthy. The winters are cold but not severe. There is no necessity for anyone to feel discomfort from the winter who protects himself properly. I am never interrupted in my outdoor work by the cold, and blizzards are entirely unknown here. I find a good local market for my grain and produce at Prince Albert, seven miles distant over a good road. Fuel, water and timber for building and fencing purposes are plentiful, easy to get, and good. I should like to re-visit Ireland, but I should not like to return there to stay. The natural hay grows in great quantities and is to be had for the cutting, so that I have never been required to cultivate any. It is a good feed, and cattle do well upon it without being fed anything else. The land is rolling, and numerous poplar groves afford

shelter for pasturing cattle. Last year I sent milk to the Prince Albert creamery and was well pleased with the result. I have never been troubled with frost, and consider this a first-class settler's country.

Andrew Knox.

Melfort, Sask., N.W.T., May 25th, 1898.

Dear Sir: As the government is desirous of getting direct information from settlers regarding the experiences of those homesteading on the Saskatchewan, I herewith enclose a brief summary of facts.

Settling in the Melfort district in 1884 and experiencing the usual hardships incident to a pioneer's life, with but a nominal sum to start with and a young family, my wife and I have had the pleasure of seeing our situation gradually improve each year, and now we are fairly comfortable and independent.

Pages might be written, and truthfully, in praise of this magnificent section of the N. W. T. Suffice it to say that nature has done all she could and the rest remains with the steady industry of the individual.

Fourteen years of seed time and harvest have passed over, with light, medium and heavy crops. Wheat was frosted twice during that time, but we have never experienced a total failure. Intending settlers must not think there are no drawbacks, and as a rule the great weakness of immigration literature is a withholding of these. Well, here is a sample:—

Climate exceedingly hot in summer; nights, however, always cool. Winter extremely cold. Mosquitoes very numerous some seasons, but these are trifles to young and vigorous men and women determined to succeed, as the climate, though severe, is extremely bracing and very healthy. Our great, and, in fact, only drawback at present, is want of a railway. Seventy-five miles from Prince Albert, the nearest market, is too far to haul grain profitably; so when you consider that a number of us, both in Carrot River and Melfort, have done fairly well, even in our isolated position, give us ready communication with the outside world and Kinistino district will soon be widely known and celebrated both for the quality and quantity of its products. Kinistino is the title for the

whole electoral division lying east of the Saskatchewan river, and includes the settlements of Birch Hills, Kinistino (or Carrot River) and Melfort. It lays to the north of the Birch Hills. No stony land, well watered by creeks and lakes. soil of the finest and deepest. (See Report of Ogilvie and Fawcett). Timber, hay and firewood plentiful and within reach of every settler!

The prairie is of a gently rolling nature. Many quarter sections can be plowed without a break; black soil with clay subsoil. Sand and limestone to be had. Timber is of poplar, birch, tamarac, spruce, and in the northeastern portion of the district ash. The ash-maple is plentiful and produces a fair quality of maple sugar, but as a rule is grown for ornament rather than use.

My brother and myself have seen most of Manitoba and the N. W. T., and our choice is my present home on Section 20, Tp. 44, Range 18 w. 2, in Melfort settlement.

Trusting these few remarks may be of interest.

I have the honor to be, etc., etc.,

Reginald Beatty.

Colleston Settlement, Saskatchewan, June 6, 1898.

To the President of the Prince Albert Board of Trade.

Dear Sir: In response to your request to know how I am satisfied with farming in this district, I beg to say that I came to this country eighteen years ago without capital. For the first few years I did any work I could get. In 1884 I took up a half section of land eleven miles from Prince Albert, and the following year I bought a few cattle. From this I worked along until now I am cropping 50 acres of land and own 50 head of cattle, half a dozen horses and a good supply of farm implements. I have built a comfortable rough-cast house and good stables, and am in a better way to do well than at any previous time. I have been sending considerable milk to the creamery at Prince Albert, and am well satisfied with its working. I prefer the climate here to that of Eastern Ontario, the locality from which I came. Although the winter is cold, the air is dry and the cold does not penetrate, and I have found this country healthier and better for throat affections than the

damper climate of Ontario. Anyone who comes in here, who is thrifty and has a little capital, cannot fail to make a good living at mixed farming. Stock raising is a sure source of profit, and my crop has never failed me. I consider this one of the best neighborhoods to be found in many days' travel. This is true socially as well as with respect to the making of a living. The educational and social advantages will now compare favorably with the best Ontario districts. I am well satisfied with the country and with what I have been able to do here and with my future prospects.

George S. Reid.

Captain Craig, an intelligent Scotchman, who has been a resident of Prince Albert for several years, says that farming will prove successful if settlers will take the right way about it, and come prepared to work. He has farmed seven years in succession, and is therefore competent to give an opinion. He further says: "Those farmers, who, to the necessary skill have added industry, the result has been in a high degree satisfactory and many have attained prosperity and independence from extremely slender beginnings."

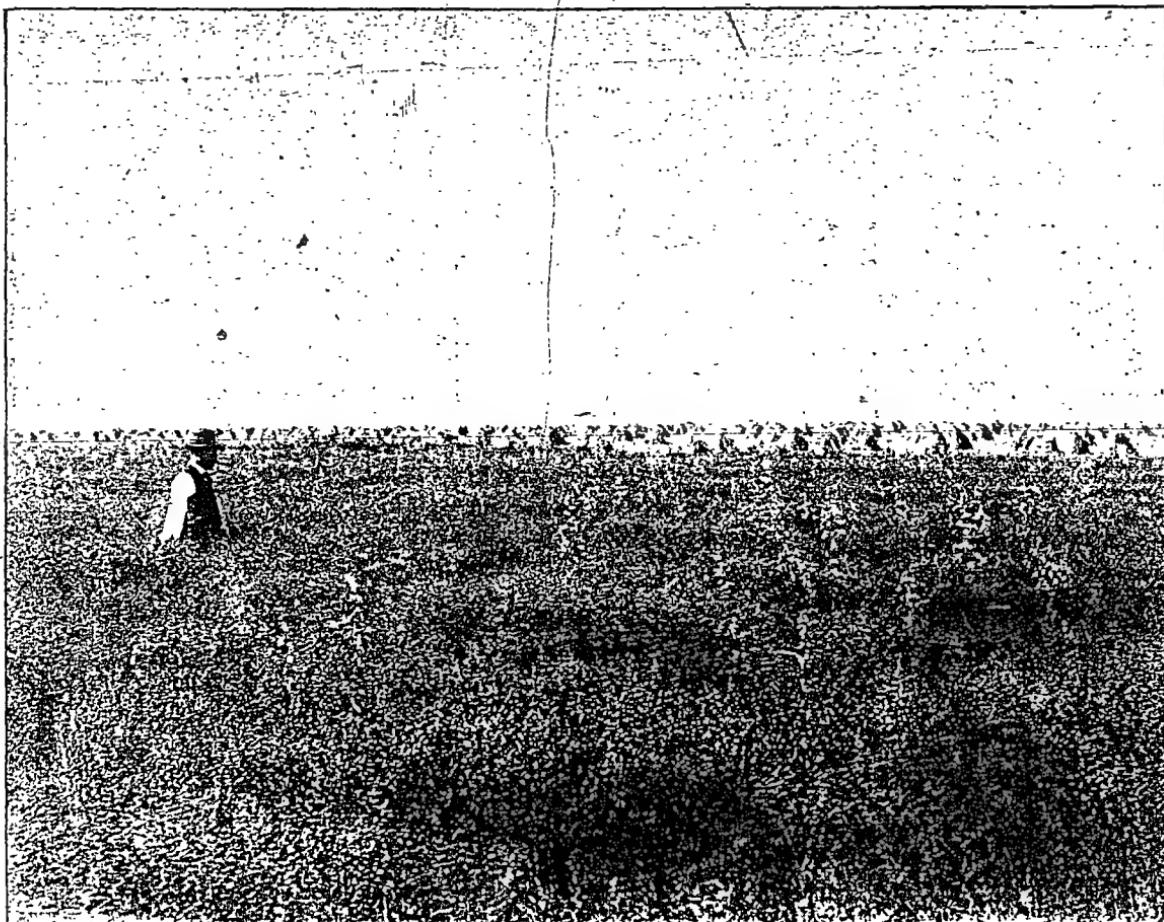
Beef animals are raised with little trouble or expense; they are usually rolling fat on the natural summer pastures and natural hay, and the straw piles in winter bring them through in good condition. Hundreds of excellent animals are annually bought up in the district for outside markets as well as for local consumption. It is not claimed for this district that it is safe or economical to winter out cattle or the better class of horses in ordinary seasons, although native ponies do wonderfully well pawing for their living. Sheep are not very generally kept, although it has been found they do remarkably well and there are already a few flocks attaining considerable dimensions. Pigs are reared by almost everybody, but not in such numbers as they might be. This will no doubt be one of the great industries of the future."

William Miller came from Huron, Ont., in 1870, and located in Rockwood, near Winnipeg, Man., where he remained for two years. Moved to the Saskatchewan in 1873 and took up

land quite close to where Prince Albert now stands. Likes the Saskatchewan country. Has farmed seventeen seasons, and states that his wheat will average about 40 bushels per acre eight years out of the seventeen. The remaining nine years he estimates that his wheat crop would average, one year with another, 25 bushels per acre. The poorest wheat crop he has had was in 1889, owing to the drought, when the yield was 18 to 20 bushels per acre. This was the first year he had suffered from drought to any extent. The crops of 1890 were later with him than he ever had before, and he had about eight acres of wheat damaged by frost. The balance of his crop escaped serious injury. Mr. Miller has kept a diary since he came to the country, so that his statements are not made from memory. He states that his oat crop has varied from 40 to 80 bushels per acre in different years, except 1889, when it was about 20 bushels per acre. Barley he regards as a very sure crop, and the smallest yield he has had was 20 bushels per acre in 1889. Horses, cattle, sheep and hogs have all done well with him.

Charles Mair, for sixteen years a resident, has farmed for ten years on quite a large scale. His property is within the present corporation limits of the town of Prince Albert. He has never had what could be called a failure in wheat. In 1889 the crop was light from drought, but could not be called a failure. Late wheat had been affected with frost in some years, but this was usually owing to careless farming. There has always been an abundance of hay, even during the driest years, and vast quantities of the natural prairie hay goes to waste annually.

James McArthur, banker, Prince Albert, is interested in a large sheep ranch. He says it costs less to keep sheep over the winter than during the summer. The region is a great hay country, and hay can be put up for the winter at a cost of about \$1 per ton. Sheep can be kept through the winter at a cost of about 25 cents per head, when handled on a large scale. They are free from disease. Hay has never been scarce. The growth of natural prairie grass is luxuriant.



FLAX AND WHEAT IN WESTERN CANADA

Water is readily obtained everywhere. Where there is not good surface or running water, it can be obtained in wells at a depth of 10 to 14 feet. Mr. McArthur also believes the country is remarkably well adapted to raising horses, and grain and root crops are phenomenally successful.

J. M. Campbell moved to the North Saskatchewan country in 1874. He has a ranch at Stony Creek, 60 miles southeast of Prince Albert. He has farmed about 100 acres and has never had a crop failure. His wheat, one year with another, has averaged 25 bushels per acre or over, while oats have yielded about 50 to 60 bushels per acre on an average for a number of years back. Mr. Campbell, like many others, has given more attention to stock, as the isolated nature of the settlement previous to the advent of the railway, rendered the market for grain rather small. He thinks the country a remarkably favorable one for raising horses. His horses winter out and "rustle" their own living. His horses are of the native breed, crossed with a Canadian stallion. They average about 1,200 pounds weight. He has taken first prize with horses that were out all winter and were never fed a straw. Cattle require feeding in the winter, though young stock will do without stabling, if fed. Sheep, he says, do with an open shed for shelter, covered overhead. They require feeding for about two months. Cattle need feeding about three months during the winter, on an average. Hogs have paid him well. In his district, Mr. Campbell says, the settlers are all doing well, despite their distance from a railway. Most of them started poor. They are loaded with stock now, which they sell for Indian and mounted police requirements, and a market for their other products is found in the same way to some extent.

J. A. Macdonald settled on the North Saskatchewan in 1868, and his property is now within the corporation limits of Prince Albert. He was the first settler to take up land and remain on it. He tells the same story of successful operations in farming, and never had what could be called a failure of his crop. His wheat averaged 24 to 30 bushels per acre. Since

1884 he has done little in the line of growing grain, having gone principally into stock. Hay is secured in abundance for winter feeding, and can be put up at a cost of about \$1 per ton. This is the natural prairie hay, which grows without any cultivation, and is always a heavy crop. Cattle are very healthy; they will do well on straw, but with good care will make good beef in the spring on hay alone. Mr. Macdonald estimates that it costs from \$10 to \$15 to raise a three-year-old steer, which is then worth from \$30 to \$40. There are no losses in stock to provide against. Hogs and sheep pay well.

Isaiah McCall, for ten years a resident, has farmed six miles from Prince Albert and raised stock, giving his attention mainly to the latter. He has found the seasons favorable and has always had a good crop of coarse grain, having given little attention to wheat. The season of 1890 he had a good volunteer crop of oats and barley. He had intended summer fallowing the land and did not plow it in the fall, but a crop came up in the spring from seed that had fallen from the previous crop. This looked so well that it was allowed to grow, and produced a crop of 25 to 30 bushels per acre. Mr. McCall has some imported Durham cattle and they have done well with him.

R. J. Pritchard, an old resident, who came in 1873, has devoted his time mainly to stock. It is his opinion that cattle can be raised to better advantage in the Saskatchewan country than on the plains to the south, where cattle ranching is followed on a larger scale, and where no provision is made for the winter. In the Prince Albert country hay is put up for the winter, but the cost of this is light, as there has always been an abundance of it. There are no losses to provide against among stock in the winter, such as cattlemen in the ranching district to the south meet with occasionally, and this more than compensates for the cost of winter feeding, as against the districts where no winter feeding is done. Mr. Pritchard has known cattle to live out all winter and pick their own living, and come out well in the spring, but this is not given as a safe plan to be followed. In one case some freight-

ers left an ox which had become tired out, and this animal was found the following spring in much better condition than when it had been abandoned as useless. Mr. Pritchard had 250 head of cattle to winter this year. He has moved those over to the wood country on the north sides of the river, where he has stables and hay put up. The young cattle will not be stabled, but will be fed. Horses not being worked will do very well running out all winter without any feeding except what they pick for themselves, and will come out fat in the spring. Cattle have not the ability to "rustle" their living during the winter like horses.

S. J. Donaldson, who came into the country in 1876, and served in the Mounted Police force, has farmed for six years. He has grown feed grains principally for his livery business in Prince Albert. He grew some flax one year as an experiment, and it produced an immense crop of seed. He threshed 2,000 bushels of oats off 30 acres in 1888; 1890 he had the same quantity from an acre or two less of land. The crop was estimated by counting the number of sacks. In 1889, the dry year, he only had 400 bushels off the same acreage.

Abraham Regier, Rosthern District (s. e. & Sec. 14, 42, 3), came from Russia in the fall of 1891. His friends helped him over from Russia to Canada. Settled in the Rosthern district in the spring of 1892. Borrowed one pair oxen, one cow, one old wagon and one old plow from friends in Manitoba, but had not one cent of money in his pocket. To-day he has eight horses, nine head of cattle, four pigs, 70 poultry, \$400 worth of machinery, 120 acres under cultivation. He sold \$900 worth of crop in 1897. Would strongly recommend friends and relations to come here.

Abram Regier.

I came from Russia in 1892. Settled in the Saskatchewan District, Rosthern, in 1893. Had \$10 in my pocket when I came to Rosthern; also four oxen and two cows, one wagon and one plow. To-day I have a homestead of 160 acres and bought a farm of 160 acres, eight horses, ten head of horned

cattle, 7 pigs, 40 poultry, 150 acres under cultivation; 2,000 bushels of wheat in the year 1897. Sold crop for \$1,250. The climate is very healthy. Winter begins in the middle of November; spring begins in the middle of April. People from the old country and the United States would recommend to come in spring. I am worth \$4,500 at the present time.

Johan Faast.

Rosthern, Sask., June 3rd, 1898.

Dear Sir: I give you a short memorandum of my doings since I landed in Saskatchewan. I arrived in Rosthern in 1894 with no money in my pocket, but had just a few head of horned cattle and a wagon and plow which I brought with me to this country, and took up a homestead near Rosthern. To-day I have 6 horses, 14 head of horned cattle, 6 pigs, 150 acres under cultivation. I also have machinery worth \$600, and also bought another farm of 160 acres, which makes one-half section of good land. Those lands are worth, at a very low estimate, \$4,500, with the improvements and the cattle and machinery thereon. If this is any use to you for furthering immigration purposes, you may use it for that purpose, as I would strongly recommend all my friends, wherever they may be, to come to this country.

Respectfully yours,

Peter Epp.
Came from Russia.

Prince Albert, 16th May, 1898.

D. C. McClellan, Esq., President Board of Trade.

Dear Sir: As regards my success as a farmer, I wish to state that I came into the country in 1882 and settled on a farm of 360 acres. I had no capital whatever except one yoke of oxen and a wagon, with which I brought in my wife and myself. Without any outside assistance I have worked along and now have 75 acres under cultivation, nine horses, 15 milch cows, 30 head of horned cattle, 10 sheep, 30 hogs, a good house, 1½ stories high, 18x22, shingle roof; stables, 75x20, flat roof, horse stable, 18x30, flat roof. Barns are not necessary and are never used, but I have a good granary, shingle roof.

I have also a self-binder, mower, rake, two wagons, one buckboard, three sleighs; three plows, two harrows, harness and all necessary tools for working the farm. I grew 1,100 bushels of grain last season and plenty of vegetables. Cattle, sheep, swine and poultry do well and sickness is unknown among them. I have plenty of natural hay and good water and wood on the premises. I am perfectly satisfied with the country, and have a large family to provide for. The only thing needed is government aid to our creameries and more railway competition. The country is healthy and a man can work any day in winter. I have never had a failure of crop.

Yours truly,

S. I. McKeen,
Colleton Post Office.

IOWA PEOPLE GO TO CANADA.

Man Buys a Farm with Proceeds from Two-Thirds of One Crop.

W. R. Milburn, John Holmes, M. R. Dagger, E. L. Stetson, of Buena Vista County, Iowa, report as follows of the Canadian Northwest as to its suitability for farming, and the advantages it offers to the agricultural immigrant from the United States: "We came here solely to look up improved farms, and, if suitable, to select such as pleased us best. We have not visited the homestead districts at all, though we believe them to be very inviting. Our inquiries have been confined solely to the district around Hartney, Deloraine and towards the Souris river in Manitoba. Our impressions of all that region are in every way satisfactory, and we have decided to go back to Iowa at once, and, having disposed of our several interests there, to return to Manitoba in the month of March next, and, effecting our purchase of improved farms, which we find we can do at reasonable rates, immediately begin farming. We are greatly pleased with all that we have seen in that part of Western Canada. The soil we find to be more than equal to that of our own country for wheat-growing, and

the other conditions of climate, schools, markets, etc., are all that we could wish for.

"To show what an energetic man can do, we may mention that we found one such at Hartney, who had rented a farm on shares, receiving two-thirds of the returns as his share of the crop. When he came to sell his own produce he found that his two-thirds, when converted into cash, was enough to buy the farm he rented out and out, which he accordingly did, and is now its owner. It is our intention to induce as many of our friends as possible, who are practical farmers, to remove from Iowa to this country, where we believe there is a better future for the industrious man than is now to be found anywhere on this continent. We are well known in our part of the State of Iowa, and we invite correspondence from its residents in all parts with regard to this region of Western Canada which we have visited, and to which we intend to return."

Kirkpatrick, June 6th, 1898.

D. C. McLellan, Esq., President Board of Trade,
Prince Albert.

Sir: In reply to your inquiries in regard to my experience of farming in this country, I would say I have been farming for 22 years. Never have I experienced a failure in crops. I have 175 acres of land under cultivation; have had an average crop of 20 bushels of wheat per acre every year. Oats and barley are a decided success in this country and stock raising can't be beat. Give us cheaper transportation for our produce and I don't want a better home than the Saskatchewan, but the high rates since the railroad came here is the only drawback to the farmer in this country.

Thomas F. Miller.

Fort Saskatchewan, January 22nd, 1899.

Dear Friend: I received your kind and welcome letter two days ago, and was glad to learn from it that you were all well.

We have nice weather this winter. It has not been very cold yet. I rode 25 miles last night without getting out to walk. There is a little snow on the ground, but not much. One of the little bay horses I had there stays out all the time.

She is as fat as a pig, and we have a hard time to get her when we want her.

Just now there is 160 acres near town, just a mile out, good land. I can get it for \$3.50 an acre, \$80 down and ten years to pay the rest in. I think this is a far better country than Kansas to be in. Coal is \$1 a ton, and wood is free, and it takes so little feed for cattle. Hogs are a good price, and so are cattle.

Do you know there is a lot of good land here yet? If you were to come up here and get land and some cows you would do well. I don't think you would care to lend any more; you would be a rich man in a few years. We have not seen a storm yet. The roads are splendid; have no mud this winter yet. I had a good time Christmas this year.

How are things back there this winter? You had all better come up here, where there is no grip to bother. Give our best wishes to your wife and all the family. I will close with best respects to all. I remain,

Yours truly,

(Signed.) Donald McAlister.

P. S.—The fires are all out to-day, so you may know that it is not cold when we don't have a fire at this time of the year.

January 29th, 1899.

Well, we have some more snow, but it is not cold. Wish you would come up here and give me all the cows I want on the shares.

There are 220 acres a mile and a half from town for sale at \$1,000. There are 100 acres broken on it. There are lots of folks coming in the spring. How is Andy Craig getting along? Tell him that this country is far ahead of Kansas, and that it is not so cold, either. D. Mc.A.

CLIPPING FROM AN EDMONTON NEWSPAPER.

Threshing is in progress throughout the settlement. D. Crozier, on W. Cust's Cut Bank farm of 425 acres, has 5,500 bushels of wheat, 3,300 bushels of oats, and 300 bushels of barley. Mr. Crozier came from Kansas this spring.

John Sherold, of Sturgeon, had 33 2-3 bushels of wheat to

the acre on the whole crop. His son had 57 bushels to the acre on one field.

W. Nicholson had 43 bushels of wheat to the acre on his whole acreage. The grain is all in good condition.

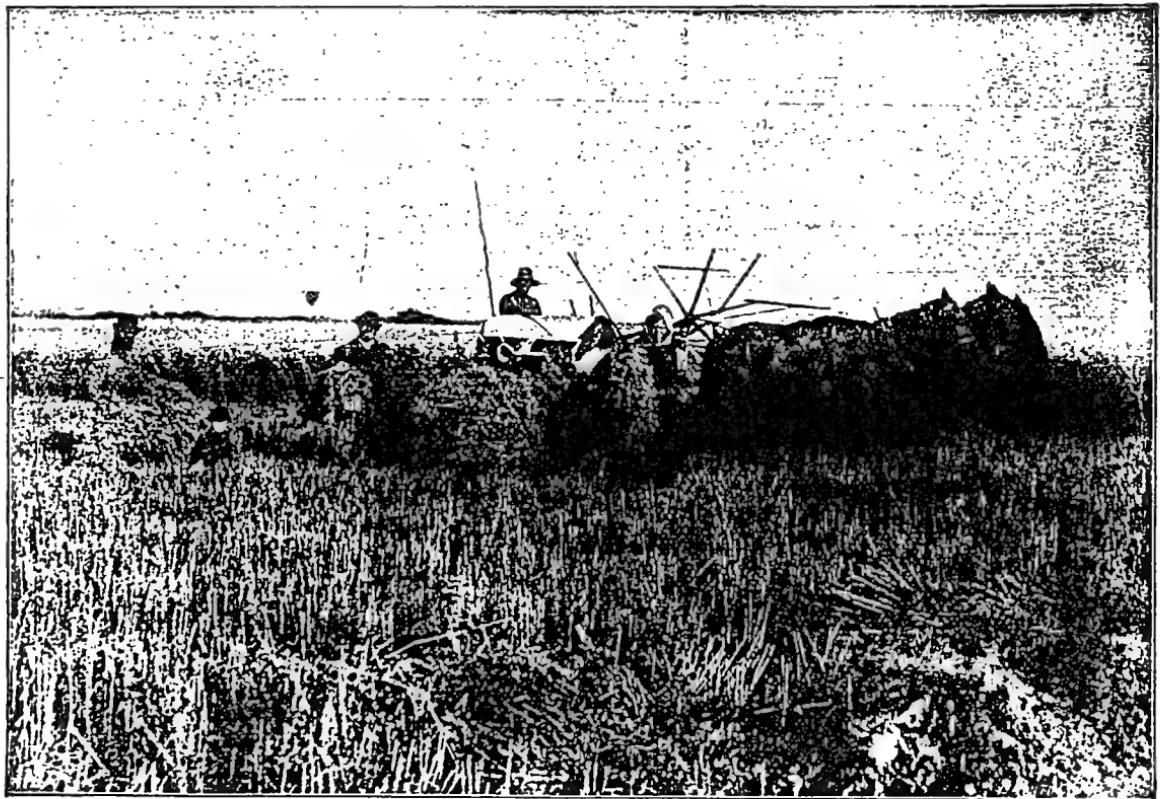
Edmonton, Alberta, N. W. T., March 14th, 1899.
Mr. J. S. Crawford.

Dear Friend: I found I had so much to see I couldn't go south this winter. I wanted to buy some cattle, and got 40 head. Then they were to feed and water and care for, and that big crop of grain to market, and get ready for the next crop, I could not get away.

I must say we have had a fine winter; not one stormy day. True, the mercury went down, and it froze hard, but it was dry, clear and calm. I think it was as pleasant a winter as I have spent for a good many years. No wind, snow or slush, good roads all the time ever since we came here. The longer we stay the better we like it. One day, the 10th of February, we drove 40 miles, 20 each way. In the morning it was 38 degrees, at night it was 45 below, and we never stopped to warm. The sun shone brightly. So that is the way it goes.

By the way, I had a letter from my Klondike brother tonight, dated December 17th at Dease River Landing, B.C. He is wintering there with 14 others. He is in fine spirits; has saved all his horses, and expects to go on and get where he can get the clear yellow metal next summer. He only heard I was here last November. He is very sanguine of success. He is catching lots of whitefish; they are drying them for summer use.

Well, I have concluded to stay right here on the Cut Bank farm, as it is known here. The one I was looking at when you were here, and that I rented last year. The old man that owned it took a notion to sell and I bought. The papers were made out last Friday, 1,040 acres at \$6 per acre, 300 acres in cultivation. I think I got a bargain. I have done well on it this year. If lots of those renters in Kansas and Missouri would get out here where land is cheap and good and plenty of room for stock, they would do well, soon own a farm of their own, and wouldn't freeze to death, either. There are



HARVEST SCENE IN WESTERN CANADA

good chances all over this northwest. My brother-in-law likes it fine. They say it beats Ontario winters; no storms like there. They are going to locate here somewhere. If my brother at Olathe could sell he would come this spring.

Yours truly,

(Signed.)

David Crozier.

GAINED 23 LBS. IN A FEW WEEKS, AND IS WELL SETTLED NEAR WINNIPEGOSIS.

Writing to Mr. J. S. Crawford, the Agent of the Canadian Government at Kansas City, the undersigned, formerly a resident of the State of Kansas, says:-

I travelled through some of the farm districts in Southern and Southwestern Manitoba, and visited the government farm at Brandon, all of which was very satisfactory and offered a fair prospect for a poor man to make a start in life and secure for himself a good farm home, which, with a little energy and business management, would soon bring him in more than a living. However, I was not quite satisfied with these parts, so I travelled farther north, coming at last to the place known as Winnipegosis, located on the lake of the same name. Here I was met by the government guide, Mr. Paul Woods, and we travelled over a great deal of this country and south to the end of the lake. I was much taken with the country in general and the location of the town is very favorable, so I decided to remain here. I commenced at once to locate a suitable claim and site for it. I found one which is located about two miles from the town to where I have decided to build my house. It is the s. e. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 2, Tp. 31, Range 18. I have what I think will prove a good quarter, and it is located very well, about three-quarters of a mile back from the lake, yet I will have a good view of the lake from the place where I have decided to build.

I have decided that this part of the country is as favorable for any kind of farming or for ranching as any one could find in this or any other country. However, there are very favorable reports coming from the Swan River country, and there

is a great deal of travel in that direction. This country is about 100 miles farther north, and has not the protection that this place has from the frosts, yet it may prove all right. As to this I can assure you. I have a quarter section located in a neighborhood where I saw potatoes raised which went from 250 to 300 bushels to the acre; wheat went from 45 to 67 bushels; oats from 80 to 117 bushels, and all other grain and garden truck average about the same. I think this is all anyone could ask of land. As to stock raising, we have plenty of good hay and the stock fattens easily.

Taking all in general, this part gives all that one could expect to find, so I am well satisfied with this location and the place I have taken.

I expect to enter fishing in connection with my homestead, and in this way I am well satisfied I can make money enough to put my place in good condition, either to make money on it or have it in fair shape to sell it if I choose.

There are a number of ways to make expenses here now and the early spring will bring more of a demand for men. Although the wages are not high, yet one can live on them until he can get in shape for his farm to net him a living.

From the movements which are on foot now, such as boat-building and prospective railroads to pass through these parts, in connection with the lumbering and fishing, which is centred in this place. I expect next summer will prove quite satisfactory so far as the business transactions are concerned. At least, I expect a favorable showing towards making this part of the country desirous.

If you have any good settlers, with some money, direct them to this place, and I will do what I can to satisfy and locate them. There are a number of good claims in view here which are open yet, and they are quite desirable ones, too.

There is no doubt that a man with no money will have to scratch and plan as well as to rough it for a while, but then if he has the head and nerve to stay, he can pull through and in a short time be quite independent of the outside world. His farm will grow anything he puts in the ground—that means that his first summer crop will fix him for the winter.

I can safely say that I know of no better place for a poor

man to start and only suggest that they come and see or try for themselves.

Hoping that this gives you a fair idea as to how well I am satisfied with this country, I will close, expecting to hear from you in the near future.

I remain,

Yours truly,

(Signed.)

P. S.—As to health, I weighed 126 lbs. when I came here; now I weigh 149, and am feeling in the best of health. R.

Lewisville, Alberta, October 20th, 1897.

C. J. Broughton, Esq., Canadian Government Land Agent,
Chicago.

Dear Sir: Your favor of October 4th received, asking how I liked Alberta, and if I was pleased or disappointed in the move I made when I left Minnesota and moved to Alberta. In answer to which I will say we are well pleased. I don't know what a man could ask for any better. We have the best of soil, a black loam. In proof of which, I will cite an instance. Houcher Brothers, who live two miles east of my farm, just threshed 1,000 bushels of wheat from 20 acres and sold the same for 60 cents per bushel. Mr. Wigg, one and a half miles south of me, has just harvested 350 bushels of as fine potatoes as you ever saw off one acre of ground. Oats have gone this year, from 45 bushels, as high as 104 bushels to the acre, and will weigh 42 lbs. to the bushel. I don't think there is a country that can beat us raising roots. We just put 175 head of cabbage in the cellar that weigh from 8 to 23 lbs., any amount from 18 to 21 lbs. Turnips grow without end; we raise them that weigh 8 lbs. for flat, and Swede turnips grow to most any size. Where is the country that can beat that soil? The beauty of it is we get 160 acres of it for nothing, just by living on it and working it for three years. The government gives us the timber to put up our buildings with, which makes the warmest of houses. We keep house plants the year round. Keep warm by wood that we get just for the drawing of it. I think we have the best country in the world for stock. I have never seen anything that could compare

with it. Plenty of free range, where cattle can roam with feed up to their eyes. We shelter and house our stock as a rule, 100 head being about the profitable number for a small farmer. The government has built creameries on the co-operation plan for the farmers. They retain one cent a pound to pay for the plant, and at the end of three years the plant is paid for and is turned over to the farmers. This year the common cows have averaged one pound a day after the government has taken out the one cent for the plant and enough to pay for the making and selling it; has netted the farmer 17 cents. So you see we have a dairy country as well, no better. Plenty of grass and water; there are little lakes every mile or so. I am on Battle river, and have two lakes within a mile of me. And what pleases me with the country is, we haven't one cent of tax to pay, unless we vote for a school district; then the taxes are from \$4.50 to \$8 a quarter section. Don't tax personal property in the country. And last, but not least, is our climate. That takes the cake. In April it comes warm and pleasant, and stays so. We usually have dry springs until the middle of May. After that we have abundance of showers. No terrible storms like we used to have in Illinois. I have been here three years, and we haven't had a thunder shower that would wake a person up. The ground freezes November 1st, and we have snow from the 15th of that month until the 1st of April. We have no blizzards. The snow falls like feathers, and lies when it falls until spring. We have steady cold weather in the winter, and no place on earth can stock do better than they do here. It's a dry cold, and when it is 20 below we do not feel it as much as you do in Illinois at zero. The sun seems to shine all the time in the winter days, and summer evenings you can sit out doors and read a paper at 10 o'clock. Nice cool evenings; no night since we lived here but what you will need two quilts over you. You ask if a poor man can do well here. It's just the country for a poor man; that's what brought me here. Plenty of instances where men came here with just enough to get a team and a cow; have been here three years, got the deed of their land, 50 acres to 100 acres under cultivation, land fenced, and 25 to 30 head of cattle. Of course, some come here and expect to

find dollars rolling up hill, but they are disappointed and leave the country. But I don't know as the country is to blame for that. It can't furnish everything. Hoping I have answered all your questions, I am,

Yours truly,
C. E. Vaughn,
Lewisville, Alberta.

Wetaskiwin, October, 1896.

I left Mancelona, Michigan, April 10th, 1894, arrived in Wetaskiwin, April 18th; had a good look at the country until August, then located within five miles of Wetaskiwin. I like the country well. Of course, I came here without anything; now I have a comfortable home and plenty to eat, which I would not have had if I had stayed in Michigan. If anyone wants a free home for \$10, and would like to raise cattle and horses, I know of no better country. Horses need no care summer or winter. Abundance of hay for the cutting.

(Signed.) Levi Bradshaw.

Sweaborg, Wetaskiwin, Sept. 14th, 1898.

W. Toole, Esq., Calgary, N. W. T.

Dear Sir: According to your request, I will hereby give my experience of the circumstances up here.

It was through the immigration agent, Mr. C. O. Swanson, of Waterville, Que., that I first obtained knowledge of this country, and I followed one of his excursions here four years ago last spring. I have thrived well the whole time since. I have now harvested five crops and have had good crops every year. I can therefore recommend the country for crops as well as climate.

I worked in a shop in the United States thirteen years, and thought during the last years to go out in the country on account of my health. I could surely not have struck anywhere a better climate and general circumstances than I have found here. Therefore, will I specially say a word to those who are working in shops and feel tired therewith, but would like to get a home of their own, that here is the right place for them. I know several people who came here with very little

to start with, but have made good progress, and everyone seems to thrive well; but it is naturally more or less a sacrifice to come from the cities to a new settlement.

I have received dozens of letters from different States with questions about whether the saying that frost destroys everything here is true or not. It is altogether untrue; frosts here do not hurt the grain except in very low places. Old farmers, who have come here from the United States, say that they have never seen such crops before as they saw here, which can be proved this year nearly all over Alberta.

For those who look for land whereon to get a home of their own, there is room for several thousands both on homesteads and on railroad land. The railroad land is cheap, \$3 per acre and ten years' time; so it is a chance for one as well as the other. Bad reputations have come out about Canada, but it is entirely untrue with reference to Alberta. I know very little about the other provinces.

My own progress is not so very great, but I have surely done better here than I should have done in the United States during the same time working in a shop. I have now 50 acres in crop, 11 head of cattle, 5 horses, 20 pigs and 75 chickens, all the necessary farm implements, etc. Is not this to be well off compared to working as a slave in a shop, I would like to know?

Last summer a number of roads have been laid out and fixed up. Several schools were commenced, and a church building is erected within the settlement, which is going ahead in every direction. Immigration is going on steady. Some have left here and gone back to the U. S., but some have returned here again, because they found that it would be better for them.

Yours truly,

(Signed.) C. H. Swanson.

Egg Lake, Alberta. Sept. 9th, 1897.

J. H. M. Parker, Esq., Canadian Government Agent,
Duluth, Minn.

Dear Sir: As I was to see you in April of last spring, you advised Mr. McCormick and myself to come out here and see for ourselves, and when we came out here I was surprised to

find this part of the country so well adapted for farming. The soil, climate and crops are all as good as could be desired, and fully as good as you recommended. I am going to return to Michigan to settle up my affairs there, and intend to bring my boys here, as I am getting about all the land I want for them.

I wish you would write me a letter regarding return rates. Write to Calgary, Alberta, care Donohue.

Yours truly,

(Signed.)

James Cuthbert.

Wetaskiwin, Alta., Sept. 11th, 1897.

W. Toole, Esq., Calgary, N. W. T.

Dear Sir: You want to know how I have got along since I came into Northern Alberta. I am happy to inform you that I am not ashamed to tell.

We crossed the line and were at the Customs House the 4th of July, 1895, and located on my land five miles northeast of Wetaskiwin, on the 1st of August; left Farmington, Washington, on the 29th of May.

We had time to build our log house the first fall and to make us comfortable for the family and stock. The first fall we built four stables, 18x20 inside, so that we could put everything inside them when the cold got down to the fifties, and worked hard getting up the stables and got through dubbing on the 1st December, but to our surprise we had no use for the stables only for the milk cow and two span of horses. The balance of the horses lived on the prairie all winter and took care of themselves. Two of the stables we left the doors open for them to go into in a cold time, but they would not

do it, but stayed out on the prairie the coldest nights we had, and looked as spry as crickets.

I suppose you want to know if we have made a living since we have been here. I can go ten rods back of my house and count ten residents. I know all of their circumstances. Everyone of them have doubled their cultivated land and doubled their animals, and a great deal more. All of us are comparatively out of debt and an unusually big crop to thresh and prospects of a fair price, and I expect we are as well contented lot of people as there are from Florida to the Klondike.

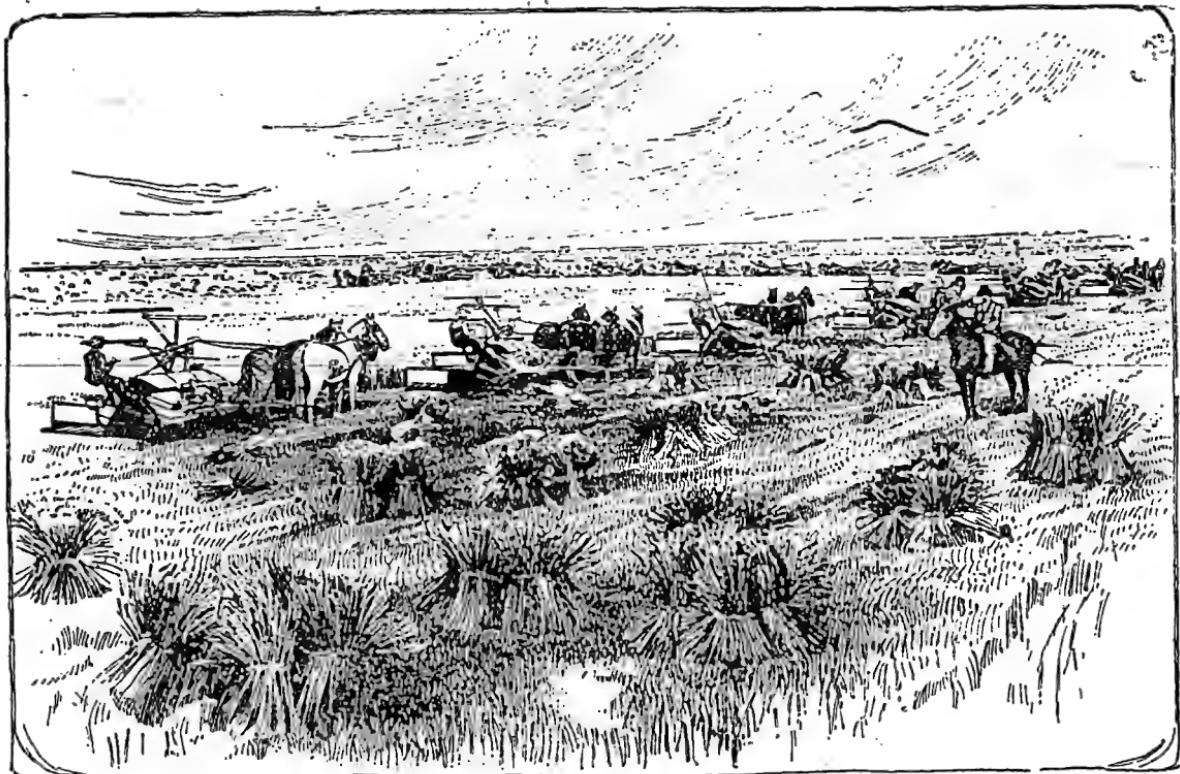
My son bought two pounds of twine to the acre, and when we started to bind some barley, we found that instead of taking two pounds to the acre, it was taking nearly five pounds. Then you ought to have seen him hitch up a team and make for town for 100 lbs. more. I cannot say how it will thresh. All I can say is that it is well headed, and takes an enormous amount of twine. The reason twine is so hard to get is that the government has taken the fines on the trade of the country, commonly known as duty, off the twine, and the merchants don't want any more of it on hand for another year.

The crops are nearly all cut, except a few late pieces of oats. I have 25 acres yet to cut. Got 75 acres; will thresh some in three days to get grain to fatten my hogs, so as to have some bacon when they start on our shortest road to the Klondike in the spring. The country will be open to us all right, with the Crow's Nest Pass R. R. and the shortest road to the Klondike.

The only fault that we have to complain of is that we did not open more land to have something more to sell.

Yours truly,

(Signed.) John Cummings.



EXTENSIVE REAPING IN WESTERN CANADA

If, after reading this pamphlet, any further information is required, application made to any of the following officials:

IN CANADA

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF IMMIGRATION,
Department of Interior, Ottawa.

THE COMMISSIONER OF IMMIGRATION,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

IN THE UNITED STATES

M. V. McINNES,
No. 1 Merrill Block, Detroit, Michigan.

W. V. BENNETT,
801 N. Y. Life Building, Omaha, Neb.

D. L. CAVAN,
Bad Axe, Michigan.

W. H. ROGERS,
Watertown, South Dakota.

JAMES GRIEVE,
Mount Pleasant, Michigan.

N. BARTHOLOMEW,
306 Fifth Street, Des Moines, Iowa.

J. S. CRAWFORD,
214 W. 9th St., Kansas City, Missouri.

J. H. M. PARKER,
502 Palladio Building, Duluth, Minn.

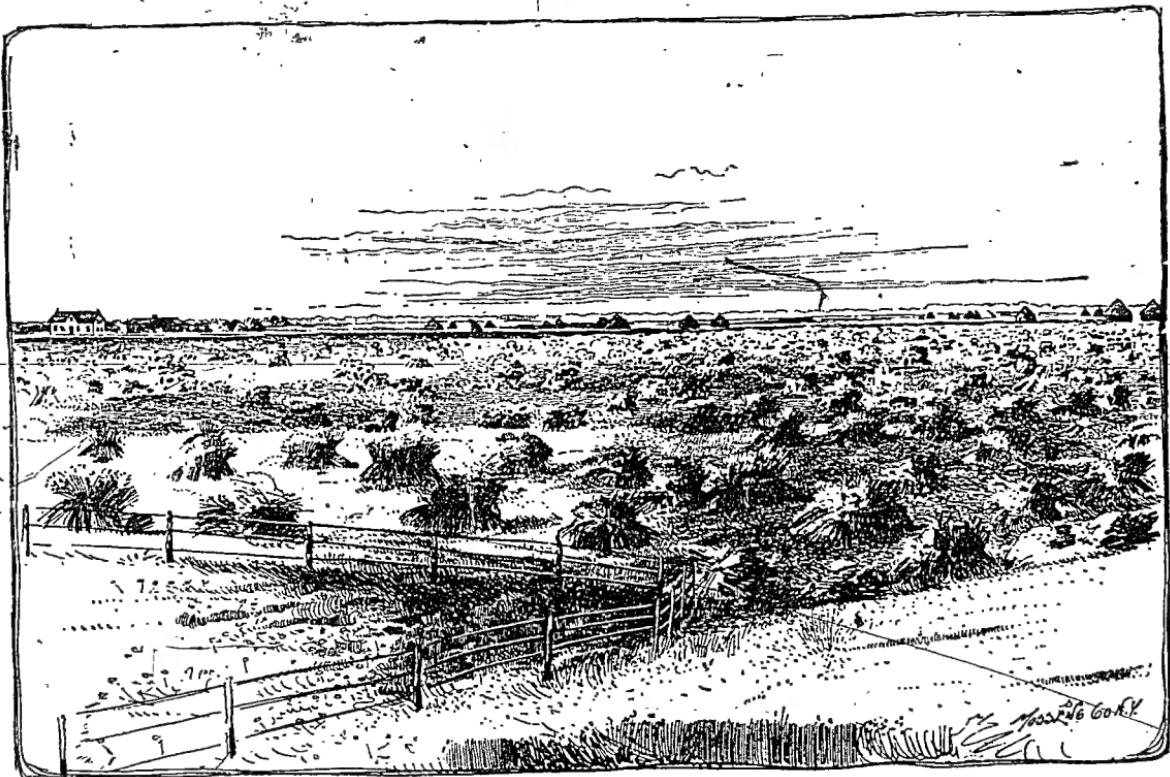
BENJAMIN DAVIES,
154 East Third Street, St. Paul, Minn.

WILLIAM RITCHIE,
Grafton, North Dakota.

T. O. CURRIE,
Stevens Point, Wisconsin.

E. T. HOLMES,
154 East Third Street, St. Paul, Minn.

C. J. BROUGHTON,
1223 Monadnock Building, Chicago, Ill.



READY FOR THE THRESHER



